

Superpowers agree May summit date

Doubts that arms treaty will be drawn up in time

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan announced yesterday that his summit meeting with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow will begin on May 29 and last until June 2.

He made the announcement in the White House rose garden after holding talks with Mr Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, who has spent two days here discussing the issues that will be on the agenda at the two leaders' fourth meeting.

Asked whether they would be able to sign a treaty reducing their long-range nuclear arsenals by half, Mr Reagan said: "I have no way

to answer that now," Mr Shevardnadze said the two sides had also made progress on Afghanistan.

The two men held a working lunch before a joint statement was issued summing up the talks of the past three days.

Mr Reagan's five-day trip to Moscow is a little later and

longer than expected, and suggests that he may want to spend time resting and looking around Moscow, a city he has never visited before.

Since Mr Gorbachev did not travel outside Washington when he was here in December, Mr Reagan is unlikely to tour the Soviet Union, though his wife has expressed interest in visiting the famous Hermitage museum in Leningrad.

On his return, the President is expected to call at Brussels to brief Nato members. Plans are also under discussion for a visit to London to pay a probable final call as President on Mrs Thatcher.

Yesterday morning Mr Shevardnadze held another round of talks with Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, devoted mainly to Afghanistan. Swift agreement on the terms of the Soviet withdrawal before the start of the summit is seen as vital by both sides.

US officials have expressed cautious hope for the resolution of the vexed question of a simultaneous cut-off of US aid to the Afghan rebels and Soviet aid to the Kabul Government.

They also discussed the Middle East. Mr Shultz urged Moscow to lend support to his latest peace plan in the Arab-Israeli conflict and to join other permanent members of the United Nations Security Council in passing a second resolution on the Gulf War, imposing an arms embargo against Iran.

On Tuesday evening Mr Shultz, who enjoys a good rapport with his opposite number, hosted an informal buffet and showed a film, *That's Entertainment*, to the Soviet delegation. He has often remarked that more can be accomplished in such informal settings, and said yesterday that the evening had, indeed, been productive.

Mr Shevardnadze appeared taken aback by the torrent of shouted questions after Mr Reagan's brief announcement. Standing beside the president, he turned aside most questions but said that with the date fixed "we shall take care of good substance, good content, for the summit."

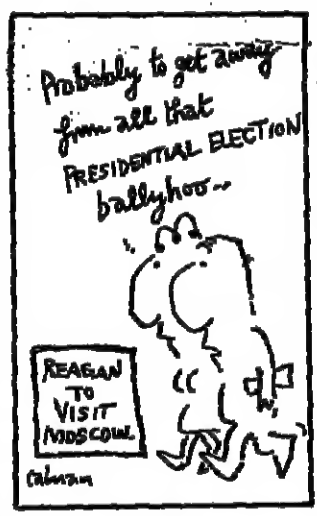
The summit will have its usual four-part agenda: arms control, regional issues, human rights and bilateral relations. Progress has been made in all fields, and the United States has been encouraged by the success of the talks in Switzerland earlier this month between Mr Frank Carlucci, the Defence Secretary, and Mr Dmitry Yazov, his Soviet opposite number.

In addition, the United States and the Soviet Union have successfully begun negotiations on a new five-year grain agreement, which the two leaders will probably sign at the summit. The Russians are expected to buy an extra million tonnes of wheat that the US has offered.

Mr Shevardnadze's talks here, the second in a series of monthly preparatory meetings, the two foreign ministers will hold in each other's capitals, were described by both sides as fruitful.

There is still doubt that a strategic arms treaty can be drawn up in time for signature. President Reagan said last week that the treaty was turning out to be very complicated, but he suggested he would be ready to meet Mr Gorbachev a second time this year if negotiations could not be completed by May.

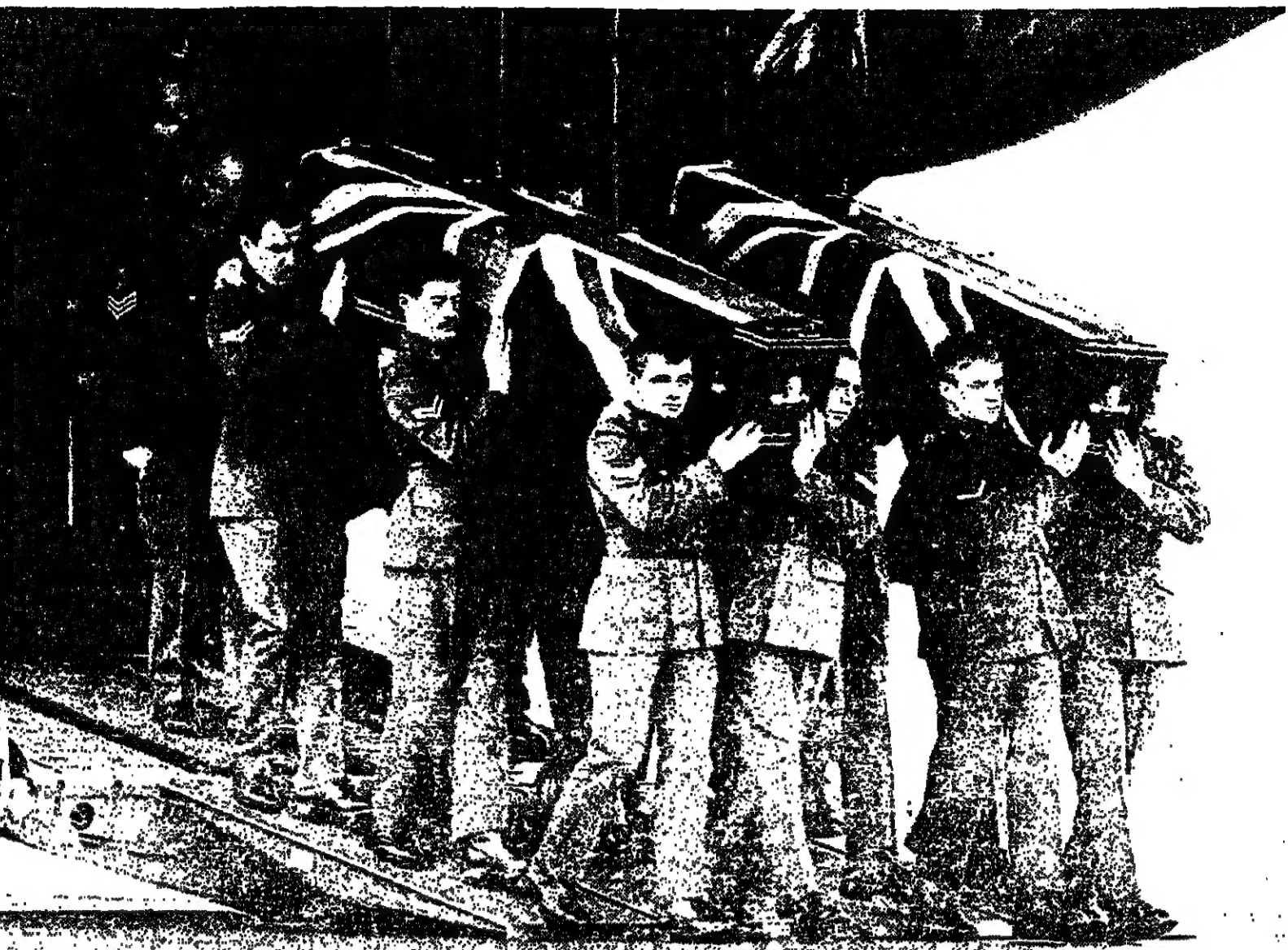
On Tuesday the new nuclear risk reduction centres, officially set up at the last summit, were formally in-



augurated. The Soviet delegation watched as a test message was sent. President Reagan has appointed Mr Allen Holmes, an Assistant Secretary of State, to be the centre's first director.

Meanwhile, the Senate Intelligence Committee has issued a report saying the intermediate-range nuclear Forces treaty could be verified, but the risk of Soviet cheating would rise sharply if a new SALT treaty was signed.

Dignity and sorrow as the soldiers come home



The coffins of Corporals David Howes and Derek Wood being borne by comrades from an RAF Hercules at Northolt yesterday. (Photograph: Tim Bishop)

RUC reverts to 'firm' policy at IRA funerals

By John Cooney and Paul Valley

The Royal Ulster Constabulary is to end its policy of staying away from republican funerals, the police force announced yesterday in its first public statement since the death of two British soldiers on Saturday.

The announcement was given immediately support by Unionist politicians, who have claimed that the murder of three mourners and two British soldiers at separate IRA funerals last week was due to the new low-profile policy which police introduced last Wednesday.

The RUC last night issued a statement which said: "Experience has shown that maintenance of the law and the prevention of outrages will only be guaranteed through the firm presence of the police and Army."

The statement made reference to those Roman Catholic church leaders who had successfully pressed the RUC chief constable, Sir John Hermon, to introduce the low-key approach.

Dr Cahal Daly, the Bishop

But the new police approach will be designed to prevent Sinn Fein members from policing funerals, to prevent bystanders from being done to death and to prevent assaults on funeral parties such as the one by a lone Unionist gunman last Wednesday, the day low-key policing was introduced.

Mr Martin McGuinness, a prominent Sinn Fein leader, said that a return to saturation policy "would only ensure confrontation and disorder" at IRA funerals.

But the RUC statement was welcomed by Dr William Fleming, the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church, preaching at the funeral of 25-year-old Police Constable Clive Graham, who was shot dead by an IRA sniper in Londonderry on Monday.

Enforcing law and order was the responsibility of the police, he said. Others did not have the legal right or power

at funerals. Spectator, page 13

Thatcher consoles victims' families

By David Sargent and John Cooney

Corporals Derek Wood and David Howes, the victims of the IRA's unbridled savagery at the weekend, came home to England yesterday.

If their murder in West Belfast on Saturday disgusted the world, then their solemn and dignified homecoming moved a much smaller group, headed by the Prime Minister, at widespread RAF Northolt, west London.

Relatives of the young corporals wept as the coffins, draped in the Union Flag and bearing the dead soldiers' number one dress hats, were carried from an RAF Hercules aircraft.

An honour guard from the Royal Corps of Signals, which whom the two men served, reversed arms as the coffins were borne across the tarmac to the sound of Chopin's Funeral March.

Then the pallbearers, also members of the Corps, paused before the small group of relatives, the Prime Minister, Mr Ian Stewart, Armed Forces Minister, and senior Army and RAF officers.

Mrs Thatcher, in black,

bowed her head as the party paid a silent tribute to the two men who had been beaten, stripped and shot after their car became entangled in an IRA funeral procession.

Even though they were carrying pistols, Corporal Wood, aged 24, and Corporal Howes, aged 23, fired only a single warning shot as the republican mob attacked.

"The restraint they showed under the most hideous, violent provocation was, surely, an example to us all," Brigadier Sam Cowan, of the Royal Corps of Signals, said later.

After the moment's silence, the two coffins were carried to waiting hearses as the Corps band played the regimental slow march.

Corporal Howes' mother, Mrs Barbara Newman, his sister Wendy and his father Mr Robert Howes accompanied their son's coffin. Corporal Wood's sister, Mrs Susan Jarvis, took a comforting hand from the Prime Minister after watching her brother's coffin placed in the hearse.

Continued on page 24, col 1

WIN £116,000

Portfolio
—PLUS NEW—
Accumulator

With 24,000 daily prize winners yesterday (see page 3), Portfolio Accumulator stands today at £116,000. Portfolio offers two chances: the daily prize of £4,000, or — if your number is higher than the daily total — the contents of the Accumulator fund.

Dukakis leads Bush in poll

Mr Michael Dukakis, the American Presidential candidate, would currently beat the Republican favourite, Vice-President George Bush, according to the latest opinion poll published yesterday.

The poll, conducted for ABC Television, gives Mr Dukakis a 5 per cent point lead over Mr Bush.

This news came as Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey, himself touted as a potential candidate, endorsed Mr Dukakis's nomination.

Best bet, page 8

40 fans held before match

At least 40 English football fans were arrested in the West End of London last night for hooliganism before the England-Netherlands match at Wembley.

A Scotland Yard spokeswoman said that most of those arrested had been drinking.

Sport, page 48

IN PART 2

Brains needed

The engineering industry needs a larger proportion of the next generation's brains as well as its share of aggressive salesmen, says an introduction to today's eight pages of Appointments. Pages 35-42

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Abbey plans to issue shares to investors

By Vivien Goldsmith

The Abbey National Building Society plans to issue shares to its investors, as the first building society to become a public company.

Britain's second biggest building society, with assets of £27 billion, will ask its 4 million members to agree that shares will be issued free to members or, more likely, that the new shares would be accompanied by a rights issue under which investors could buy additional shares on favourable terms.

Adult members with more than £100 in their accounts stand to emerge as the initial

shareholders in the new company. Abbey needs to attract votes from 20 per cent of them, with 75 per cent voting in favour.

There is no timetable for conversion, as the Building Societies Commission has not yet published the final version of the terms under which building societies will be able to convert. But however swiftly these final rules are published and brought into force it will probably be at least a year before Abbey National Plc appears at the Stock Exchange.

Abbey's plans, page 25

Ford deal backed by TUC

By Roland Rudd

The TUC general council yesterday voted decisively in favour of the engineers' single-union deal with Ford of America in a last-ditch attempt to persuade the company to reverse its decision to cancel the £40 million Dundee plant.

The unions opposed to the deal immediately made it clear that the 23-15 vote in favour of the Amalgamated Engineering Union's single union agreement was only "TUC advice" which they were not bound to accept.

Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, whose members threatened to block the proposed factory, said he would not recommend the advice to Ford's national negotiating committee.

Continued on page 24, col 3

Hammond avoids TUC suspension

By Roland Rudd

The TUC general council was yesterday prevented from putting forward a motion to suspend the electricians' union after Mr Eric Hammond, its general secretary, said the move breached the TUC's own rules and procedures.

Mr Hammond, of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, made a defiant stand which took the council by surprise.

Trade union leaders had been expected to suspend the union for three months for breaking TUC directives over its role in News International's move to Wapping.

Mr Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary, was forced to break the motion and put forward a motion to defer consideration of action until he had time to seek

legal advice. The motion was carried by 21 votes to 14.

Mr Tony Dubbins, general secretary of the National Graphical Association, which was involved in the Wapping dispute, said the issue "has certainly not gone away".

Ms Brenda Dean, general secretary of print union Sogat, said she was "very annoyed" with what her members would see as the "typical wish of the TUC not to deal with the problem" and said a decision should be taken soon or the issue would divide the trade union movement at its annual Congress in September.

Continued on page 24, col 1

Civil Servants who economised with the truth

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

Two top Civil Servants have been forced to apologise unreservedly to a Commons select committee after repeatedly and publicly denying the existence of embarrassing papers which one MP had actually seen.

Mr Derek Andrews, permanent secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, and Mr Guy Stapleton, chief executive of the Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce, have sent letters to the Public Accounts Committee admitting that they "intentionally" and "unwittingly" misled it when they gave evidence last month on fraud and the Common Agricultural Policy.

At that meeting the two men were challenged directly, but specifically

denied that their briefing papers contained pages headed "Not for NAO (National Audit Office) Eyes". The NAO, which prepares reports for the committee, has an absolute right to demand any factual information relating to departmental performance.

However both men had fallen foul of an eagle-eyed member of the committee, Mr Terry Davis, Labour MP for Birmingham Hodge Hill, who by chance had spotted Mr Stapleton reading just such a document while the Civil Servant was travelling by train to Reading from his Cotswolds home two days before the meeting.

In the course of the evidence session Mr Davis said he understood the two men's briefing papers included a page headed "Not for NAO Eyes" and asked what it was they were trying to hide from the NAO.

Mr Andrews replied: "I do not recognize the page you are referring to." Mr Stapleton, asked if he recognized it replied: "No I do not."

Mr Davis then invited the two men to reconsider their replies — an offer not taken up. Finally he suggested they re-examine their briefing papers after the meeting and send letters to the committee if they wanted to correct their earlier replies.

Mr Andrews replied: "I do not see the need to do it." Mr Stapleton replied: "I am in very much the same position as Mr Andrews."

Now, however, Mr Andrews has written to the committee saying that "there was one page of my brief, an index page, which has these words in the heading. I apologise to the committee for giving incorrect evidence. I did so unwittingly."

Mr Stapleton has also written to say it had been "subsequently drawn to my attention that one page of my briefing did carry that superscription. Although it was not part of the material I was using for the hearing, I apologise unreservedly to the committee for having inadvertently misled them in this way."

After the meeting the committee asked the Comptroller and Auditor General, Mr John Bourn, to investigate whether important information had been deliberately withheld from the NAO.

Mr Davis commented: "It was unfortunate that Mr Stapleton and Mr Andrews could not remember what was in briefs which Mr Stapleton for one had been reading only two days before. I expect higher standards from such senior Civil Servants."

Arthur Price of England
Sheffield
Cutlery
Album

This cutlery book has taken 86 years to write

It was in 1902 that my grandfather first started to design and produce his own quality silver plated and stainless steel cutlery. He also decided that if his cutlery was going to bear his name he was going to personally guarantee each and every piece. Later my father continued this tradition and the range and company grew. 86 years later, I'm proud to say that our cutlery carries the names of some of Britain's most famous homes. The family tradition and guarantee continues and Arthur Price of England enjoys an unrivalled reputation throughout the world for producing the finest quality cutlery. Our new full colour Sheffield Cutlery Album portrays our entire range. Page after page of the finest cutlery you can buy. Send now for your free copy and a very special £10 voucher. We thank you if you find looking through our book time well spent — after all it's taken us 86 years to write it.

John Price
Chairman, Arthur Price of England.

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Wind energy on stream by 1992

The electricity needs of 15,000 people will be met when Britain's first three wind energy farms start operating in 1992. They will be built under a £28 million scheme announced yesterday by Mr Michael Spicer, Minister of State at the Department of Energy.

He told the British Wind Energy Association's conference in London: "Our studies suggest that, technically, wind energy could eventually contribute as much as 20 per cent of United Kingdom electricity supply. The wind farms, at sites yet to be decided, will each have 25 wind turbines producing a total of 8 megawatts, and they will be funded jointly by the department and the Central Electricity Generating Board. In addition, the world's first experimental offshore wind energy unit will be built off the Norfolk coast in a project costing £2 million, sponsored by the Government, the CEB, Eastern Electricity Board, the turbine manufacturers and the EEC.

Poll win for P&O

A High Court judge yesterday rejected an attempt by the National Union of Seamen to postpone legal action by the P&O ferry group aimed at stopping a national strike ballot.

Mr Justice Pill ruled that P&O's action, which also involves contempt of court proceedings against the union, should be heard tomorrow.

P&O lawyers will argue that the ballot, called in protest at the rundown of the merchant fleet, would amount to an incitement to unlawful secondary industrial action.

Yamani's legal bid

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the former Saudi Arabian oil minister, will try in the High Court in London today to have a book about him taken off the bookshelves.

The legal action follows an injunction granted on Monday to restrain further distribution or publication of *Yamani: The Inside Story*, by Jeffrey Robinson.

The Sheikh, who for 24 years dominated the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, began legal moves over alleged breaches of an agreement made with the author.

£30,000 book award

Britain's newest and most valuable literary competition was launched yesterday with the announcement of the nominations for the £30,000 NCR Book Award.

NCR Ltd, the computer manufacturers, has donated the prize for non-fiction titles. Although non-fiction accounts for more than 90 per cent of book sales, attention has on the past focused on awards, such as the Booker Prize, for novels. NCR's £25,000 top prize, with £1,000 each for the five runners-up, is designed to stimulate interest in non-fiction.

A shortlist of six has been chosen by a panel of judges chaired by Mr Jeremy Isaacs, former chief executive of Channel 4, from an entry of 195 books.

Family is reunited

John Matthews and Sue Chapman passed each other in the street daily for two years without realizing they were brother and sister. The family connection was discovered only when Sue's daughter and John's son, both aged 17, became friends at school in Devon.

Sue was adopted as a baby and told she had a brother when she was 14. John, aged 41, from Ashburton, did not know of his sister.

Sue, aged 37, from Buckfastleigh, said of her brother: "I said hello to him every day. Now to find out he is my brother is amazing."

Journalist ban stays

A Palestinian journalist, considered a security risk by the Home Office, was yesterday refused permission to live in Britain.

The Court of Appeal, upholding his exclusion, said there were "disturbing" factors in the case.

He came to Britain in 1979, and in 1986, returning from a visit to the Lebanon, was told his re-entry visa had been revoked. He was refused political asylum and removed from the country, which Lord Justice Dillon said yesterday was a serious breach of immigration rules.

Law Report, page 19

Land-Rover strike still on as unions hold ballot

By Craig Seton

The month-old Land-Rover strike is to go on until 6,000 manual workers vote in a secret ballot on a revised pay offer after a chaotic and bitter mass meeting yesterday failed to agree on a return to work.

Union leaders were howled down when they admitted that they had failed to win any "new money" in the revised, two-year pay deal they were recommending the striking workforce to accept.

A show of hands on the unions' recommendation to accept the offer appeared to be close, but when Mr Stan Hill, the union convenor, announced that it had been carried, he was greeted with a barrage of protests.

After consulting union colleagues, he told the workforce that a secret postal ballot would be held and urged workers to remain on strike until the result was known.

However, it was estimated that at least 2,000 of the workforce stayed away from the mass meeting outside the company's plant in Solihull, West Midlands.

The strike has cost the company an estimated £66 million in lost production and each striking worker has lost £1,000 in pay.

At the mass meeting, Mr Sam Robinson, the chief union negotiator, had outlined the revised pay deal agreed by management and unions.

The protests began when it became clear that management had restructured its offer to consolidate some bonus payments into basic pay, but had not increased the total package.

Land-Rover management has insisted that the new pay offer is worth 14 per cent over two years. The unions claimed it was worth only 8 or 9 per cent in new money.

● The threat of industrial action at Jaguar loomed last night as 4,000 manual workers began balloting on the company's plans to increase production at its assembly plant at Coventry. The unions are opposing Jaguar's proposals to step up production from 48,000 cars to 56,000 a year without increasing staff.



Mr Stan Hill, the convenor whose verdict on the vote was overturned, addressing the mass meeting at Land-Rover's plant.

Controversy over single-union agreements

Transport workers sign two deals

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

About 1,300 new jobs are being created in Wales at two separate companies which have single-union deals with the Transport and General Workers' Union, currently at the centre of the dispute over Ford's decision not to build a new components plant at Dundee.

The union won contracts against opposition from the electricians at one plant and Sogat, the print union, at another. The TUC disputes committee was asked to adjudicate, which it did in favour of the TGWU.

The transport workers' opposition to a single-union deal negotiated by the AEU has caused Ford to abandon plans to build a new factory at Dundee with the loss of 1,000 jobs.

Yesterday TGWU officials

maintained that the two cases were not comparable. They said Ford was trying to break long-standing agreements with a view to undermining the pay and conditions of workers. The union's agreements in Wales were of long standing and the companies involved accepted that future expansion, involving new factories would continue the single-union arrangement.

Yesterday's announcement by Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, that American-owned Kimberly-Clark, which makes soft tissues, would be creating 200 new jobs under a single-union deal with the TGWU, was held up as an example to Ford.

Delyn Borough Council, in whose area part of the development is taking place, has launched a campaign to

get Ford to bring its cancelled Dundee project to Wales. Mr Tony Sharps, a local councillor who sent a telegram to the Ford president in Detroit, said the Kimberly-Clark announcement was proof of what the area could do.

Mr Walker said he would be delighted if Ford expanded in Wales but said he would be equally delighted if it invested in Scotland, rather than taking the project back to the US.

Mr Alan Demaine, Kimberly-Clark's personnel manager, said that the single-union deal with the TGWU was negotiated five years ago, in spite of opposition from Sogat, which represents workers at two other plants.

Mr Demaine said the matter was taken through the TUC disputes procedures, which resolved the problem.

"We are keeping faith with the union under that original deal by acknowledging rights for the TGWU in our expansion plans in Clywd", he said.

The company is investing £20 million at Flint and on Deside. Mr Nicholas Smith, Dallas-based Kimberly-Clark's managing director, said the single-union deal it had was a very important part of the decision to move to North Wales.

Mr Walker has also announced the creation of 1,100 jobs over the next three years in one of the biggest industrial projects the country had seen for some time. Race Electronics, of Talbot Green, Mid Glamorgan, employs 750 people and has increased its workforce by 300.

Four years ago the company had an annual turnover of

£3 million. This year it is expected to be £36 million. It negotiated a single-union deal with the TGWU.

● British Coal has sold one of its transport fleets in a privatization deal which will give sole negotiating rights for workers in the new company to the Union of Democratic Mineworkers (UDM).

Under the multi-million pound deal, a consortium of local businessmen backed by merchant bankers will take over British Coal's Nottinghamshire mobile plant and transport operation at South Normanton, near Mansfield, from Sunday.

The work carried out in the Nottinghamshire colliery by the 400 workers and 190 vehicles at the depot will now be contracted out to the new company by British Coal.

Dundee fiasco a threat to overseas investment

By Roland Rudd

Union opposition to Ford of America's attempt to sign a single-union deal in Dundee will jeopardize further investment in Britain from America and the Far East, according to a report to be released on Monday in London and New York.

The *British-American Deal Review* says that Britain's industrial relations' image - already damaged by a rash of highly-publicized strikes involving American companies - has been "further blackened by the folly of

union opposition to Ford's planned investment in Dundee".

In assessing the risks and returns of investment, the review says that foreign companies believe single-union deals are increasingly important. Unless the British trade union movement offered those arrangements, with a guarantee that hostile unions would not boycott companies with single-union agreements, a significant amount of future investment would be redirected to other countries.

When Ford of America and the Amalgamated Engineering Union first announced they had signed a single-union agreement at Dundee last October, Mr Michael Murphy, automotive officer for the Transport and General Workers' Union, said that if the deal went ahead no component manufactured in the factory would be installed in Ford cars made in Britain.

Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, yesterday said the report bore out the TUC's own evidence that there is increasing pressure from

companies to sign single-union deals.

"We want inward investment and we must never give the wrong signals to foreign companies. The Dundee situation injects a further note of urgency into the work of the TUC's special review procedure", he said.

Foreign companies which have invested in the UK account for a disproportionately large share of single-union deals.

The *British-American Deal Review* (110 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 3RA; by subscription)

Community charge

Disobedience call by SNP

By Kerry Gill

The Scottish National Party has urged the Scots to disobey the Government and not pay the community charge, or poll tax, when it is introduced in April 1989.

Under the slogan: "Don't get mad - get even", Mr Gordon Wilson, the SNP leader, yesterday launched a campaign to defeat the new tax.

Mr Wilson said in Edinburgh that the party's aims in the run-up to the May district elections were to stop the poll tax and to rebuild Scotland's political muscle.

"We want a mandate for a campaign of mass non-pay-

ment because we realize this is the only effective way outside of having a Scottish parliament. People should refuse to pay and make the poll tax irrecoverable", he said.

The SNP will field at least 550 district candidates compared with 493 at the last elections when they polled 19 per cent of the vote.

Mr Wilson said he expected 22 per cent backing from the electorate on May 5 because the Scottish people were very angry about recent political and industrial events in Scotland.

"I consider it utterly detestable that 450 jobs in Dundee have been lost

because of the actions of fat cats down south who have no idea about the unemployment and poverty affecting our country. We have to stamp out their influence so that a Ford-style situation never happens again", he said.

"Our message to the Scottish people is this. Don't just moan about the poll tax - stop it. The Scottish people must face the moment of truth. If they vote Labour they will get nothing but words. If they vote SNP, they will get action."

However, Mr Wilson would not commit himself to non-payment of the tax.

Parliament, page 4

Guidelines for judges

Formal sentencing charts to be issued

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Judges are to be issued with ready-reckoner "bench books" giving them sentencing guidelines and other formal guidance charts to steer them "through the thickets" of legislation in reaching decisions in court.

The guidelines, a new move in the training of judges, are to be sent out by the Judicial Studies Board, a committee of judges and lawyers under Lord Justice Mustill with responsibility for overseeing judicial training.

The board also wants to bring in video recording equipment which it believes

"has real potential" for professional judges' training. It has asked the Lord Chancellor to consider setting a specified period of time which judges would have to spend in training.

The board plans first to issue "bench books", to "place at the judge's elbow a repository of guidance in loose-leaf form for ready revision", which will "help him to rule quickly and with confidence on issues arising without warning".

At the same time, the board is considering giving judges

formal guides to help them arrive at decisions.

So far the use of such guides, described as a "novelty in the United Kingdom", has been confined to magistrates. The board says that although "no body would suggest that he (a judge) requires or would tolerate guidance from the board" in reaching decisions, judges could benefit from some guidance.

"Some of the legislation which the judge has to apply is extremely complex and is not easy to master even on repeated reading, and we feel that much strain and effort

could be saved round the country."

The board, which outlines its proposals in a report published yesterday, says that "great care will be needed to avoid the suggestion that the judges are incapable of working out a solution for themselves, or that their thought processes are being compelled to follow a particular path."

The sentencing guidelines will be those laid down periodically by the Lord Chief Justice.

Judicial Studies Board Report for 1983-87 (Stationery Office, £5.80).

Money men cast shadow over island

By Ronald Fax

A general election took place yesterday in Guernsey and left no visible ripple on the calm surface of the island. There were no political posters and no haranguing from loud hailer (that is not permitted). There was not even a whisper about Labour or Tory, right or left.

The 50 candidates for 32 seats in the States of Deliberation, the island's parliament, have done little more than issue leaflets outlining their views on the future of Guernsey and invite electors to ring up for a chat.

"It is the way things are done here. No one gets terribly excited even though the issues that face Guernsey are very

serious. There have been meetings locally where candidates have put their points of view and people do take an interest, but we don't make a fuss about it", one woman said at the polling station in St Peter Port where votes were going into the ballot box at the rate of one a minute.

But behind the calm lies concern about the future of the island which has achieved so much. There is full employment, a thriving economy, independence from Westminster, 20 per cent income tax, and a host of other fiscal advantages. Even so, the problems that come with prosperity have clouded this 25-square-mile wedge of delightful countryside off the Normandy coast.

The finance industry has always been

on the island but is now marching across Guernsey at a formidable rate. Many residents fear it is being unhealthily dominated by banks, insurance companies and offshore funds.

Guernsey-based offices are responsible for handling many billions of pounds. The necessary expertise cannot be generated locally. Outside experts have taken up already scarce housing, making life impossible for many young couples.

In spite of a two-tier property system, giving preference to islanders, demands have been made for draconian measures by the next parliament. Some islanders favour much stricter laws on immigration and mandatory controls over companies seeking to move to Guernsey and on expansion by existing companies.

Isn't it time you learnt the facts of life?



In Britain today an unskilled worker's child is twice as likely to die around the time of birth as that of a professional worker.

The facts of life affecting Britain's children in 1988 make grim reading.

For example, between 1985 and 1986 alone, the number of children on 'at risk' registers in England and Wales rose by a massive 22%.

And in the five years to 1986 the number of homeless families with children rocketed from 54,000 to 72,000.

The facts show that the gap between rich and poor in the UK is growing.

The lower down the social scale a child enters the world, the greater the odds are stacked against him. In education. In health. In housing. Even in the chance of life itself...

The NCH Factfile was published for the fifth successive year on March 22nd 1988. It contains the latest official statistics on the problems and dangers now facing our country's children. Child abuse, poverty, disability, drugs, health and crime are among the subjects covered.

All manner of people, from local



CARING FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

government officials to teachers and from magistrates to journalists have used our Factfile in the past.

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Doctors demand a law to ban all smoking at work

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The medical profession yesterday called on the Government to introduce legislation to ban smoking at work because of the risk of getting lung cancer through passive smoking.

The British Medical Association said that after the publication of a report from leading scientists supporting a smoking ban at work and other public areas, the Government should act immediately.

"There is no alternative for the Government but to take responsible action - and that means legislation - which will protect the health of the non-smoker and allow people to breathe clean air at work and in public places", the BMA said last night.

The Government-commissioned report from the Independent Scientific Committee on Smoking and Health, says that the effects of breathing other people's smoke could cause several hundred of the 40,000 lung cancer deaths in the United Kingdom each year. It says that passive smoking can increase the risk of a non-smoker getting lung cancer by between 10 and 30 per cent.

"Non-smoking should be regarded as the norm in enclosed areas frequented by the public or employees, special provision being made by smokers rather than vice versa."

Improved ventilation or the mixing of smoking and non-smoking areas within the same enclosed space would not provide adequate safeguards against passive smoking, it says.

Announcing the publication

of the report yesterday in a written parliamentary reply Mrs Edwina Currie, Under Secretary of State for Health, did not commit the Government to legislation but left the way open for future action.

"The Government accepts the thrust of the report which reflects established policies of voluntary arrangements and we will be considering in that light how the recommendations can best be carried forward", she said.

"Action on some recommendations can be taken relatively quickly, but others will need further discussion and negotiations with interested parties, including the tobacco industry."

The BMA said that talks with the tobacco industry were beside the point. If consultations were needed they should be conducted with organizations such as itself.

The report recommends that lower ceilings should be set for cigarette tar and carbon monoxide yields, and calls for action to persuade more smokers to choose low-tar brands.

The tobacco industry should research ways of reducing the "amount, irritancy and other deleterious properties of sidestream smoke from all tobacco products", it says.

The committee, chaired by Sir Peter Froggatt, also suggests that passive smoking could contribute to childhood respiratory diseases and low birthweight in children born to women exposed to other's smoke during pregnancy.

Previous reports have established a link between smoking and low birthweight but few studies have looked at the

relationship with passive smoking.

"In two studies there was 24 grammes difference in birthweight between exposed and unexposed women", the report says. "The magnitude of the association appears to be larger than would be expected."

Action on Smoking and Health, the anti-smoking organization, also called on the Government to back the report with legislation.

"If it says it will not legislate it will risk the same backlash from the medical profession and health organizations as it got from the five officers before it made a U-turn to ban inflammable foam material from furniture", Mr David Simpson, director of Ash, said.

"The report has ended any debate about whether passive smoking is harmful. It is. The vast majority of the public want protection from other people's smoke."

Mr Simpson warned the Government that voluntary measures would not guarantee the health and safety of the public. "This is about health, about life and death, not a preference. Voluntary measures have failed to work in the past 10 years."

Ash has written to all environmental health departments asking them to suggest suitable test cases where an employer could sue an employee under the Health and Safety Act. The Act gives employers a duty to keep the working environment safe.

Mr Simpson said that he expected at least one test case to go before the courts in the next few months.

St Laurent with a new jazz age

By Liz Smith
Fashion Editor
Paris



Master of taste: elegant St Laurent head-embroidered suede suits (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Yves St Laurent coolly wound up the ready-to-wear shows in Paris yesterday with a statement of elegance that denounced much of what had been seen in the days before as tawdry and confirmed his own position as the tastemaker of the century.

Lacroix's voluptuous and curvy line has recently provided welcome competition, but in the face of such a frisky challenge St Laurent, who has set trends for three decades, roused his audience with a collection the tempo of which was sophisticated and upbeat.

The Cubist theme, launched with his dazzling couture show in January was the warm-up for an explosion of geometry and blocks of colour. It signalled the birth of a new jazz age. St Laurent's new *casual de toilette* for men, launched yesterday, is called simply Jazz.

From the start, it was clear that he was in control. A steady measured beat of coats and seven-eighths jackets in camel, charcoal and rusty red opened the show.

An occasional percussion clash of scarlet syncopated with pink, or jade with emerald punctuated the rhythm. Suede suits in dusky shades are collarless with edges and seams overlaid with leather stripes.

St Laurent is the designer who has single handedly made the safari jacket, brass buttoned blazer and boiler suit chic classics of twentieth century style. It was he who made traditional men's tailoring smart for women, and established the tuxedo as the alternative to a frothy frock.

The rhythm of the show quickened as his Cubist jackets appeared, bisected first in flannel or velvet with mismatched sleeves, then rising in a crescendo of colourful satin. Pink clashed with purple and turquoise yellow with scarlet, white and black.

The audience went wild about his new jazz age.

Portfolio —PLUS NEW— Accumulator 40 years' marriage celebrated

A tax inspector and a retired newsagent share the daily Portfolio Prize of £4,000.

Mr Kenneth Churchill, aged 68, and his wife Mona, of Cranewater Avenue, Southsea, Portsmouth, celebrate their ruby wedding in two weeks.

He said: "This could not be more fortuitous, we are having a party and the trimmings will be a bit more lavish on the strength of it."

Also sharing the prize is Mr Roger Ferris, aged 39, a tax inspector, of Plymouth, who said he planned to spend some of the money on presents.



Mr Churchill trimmings.

The Times Property Guide

Saturday's full-colour, 16-page Times Property Guide focuses on the value of a good garden, the attractions of the Algarve and the prospects for first-time buyers

Sexual discrimination

University to favour women

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

Strathclyde University yesterday became the first in Britain to adopt a policy of positive discrimination in favour of women.

The university senate said: "If legally possible, and wherever appropriate, the university will endeavour to adopt in the implementation of its requirements for entry a policy of positive discrimination in favour of women, mature candidates and candidates from designated areas of social deprivation."

Mr Ronald Crawford, the academic registrar, said the decision meant women would be offered places in preference to men of equal ability on courses where they were traditionally under-represented.

The statement was criticized by the Home Office, which said positive discrimination was illegal. An official said: "The Sex Discrimination Act permits positive action - that is, steps falling short of discrimination - in the pro-

vision of training for minorities."

The official added that "training" meant the kind of vocational training offered by the Manpower Services Commission and the Training Services Agency to "equip people equally to do a job".

Mr Crawford, who emphasized that Strathclyde would "stick by the letter of the law", said the Treaty of Rome included universities in its definition of "training bodies for vocational courses".

The Equal Opportunities Commission welcomed the university's statement. An official said the Sex Discrimination Act allowed positive action to encourage women.

Strathclyde, which has 6,000 full-time undergraduates, 61 per cent of whom are men, said it was committed to widening access. Mr Crawford said it was trying to make its first-year courses easier. "We think they are too demanding for mature students and those

with non-standard entry qualifications."

British universities are declining into worthless mediocrity, a report by the Institute of Economic Affairs, a right-wing think-tank says.

Dr Oliver Letwin, a former member of the Prime Minister's policy unit, calls for the abolition of the University Grants Committee, the body which distributes £3 billion a year, and suggests that students should be given annual vouchers worth £3,000 to "spend" on fees at the university of their choice.

Professor Patrick Minford, professor of economics at Liverpool University, argues that the "higher education crisis" could be solved by allowing universities and polytechnics to recruit home students who were prepared to pay the same full-cost fees as foreign students.

Higher Education: Freedom and Finance (IEA Education Unit, 2 Lord North Street, London SW1P 3LR; £2.50).

Travel and fitness a woman's aims

By David Cross

Women in Britain want to spend their money on travel and on their health and fitness. They are less likely to spend it on home improvements or glamorous clothes and cosmetics.

Their ideal would be the warmth and approachability of Felicity Kendal, the actress. Other popular role models are the Duchess of York, the actresses Joan Collins and Glenda Jackson, and Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Although most women are quite happy with their gender, one in six is fed up with living in a man's world. Only a handful believe that the most important change in their life

would be a better relationship with their partner.

Men are, however, doing their best to help in the house, according to a survey published today by Mintel, a leading market research firm. Almost half the women in the poll say their partners give a hand with domestic chores.

The survey was carried out last year on more than 1,000 women. It is included in a 160-page report, which analyses women's lifestyles in the 1980s and their aspirations for the year 2000.

The report shows that while the general health of the nation is improving, women are increasingly dying from

traditionally male diseases. More women drink and smoke.

Women are also much more likely to need psychiatric help. Between 12 and 17 per cent of them suffer from clinical depression at some time.

The report shows that the number of women entering the professions has doubled since the beginning of the decade. As many women as men are being arched to solicitors, entering advertising and studying medicine although their prospects of advancement remain slim.

Women 2000 - Special Report (Mintel, KAE House, 7 Arundel St, London WC2R 3DR; £5.50).

Composers on the dole

Music sponsored by DHSS

By Andrew Billen

When the London Sinfonietta plays the opening bars of *Ena Madrugada*, a work for wind and string quartets, at the Queen Elizabeth Hall tonight no one will be prouder than Simon Holt, one of Britain's leading young composers.

At the age of 30, Mr Holt has become a familiar figure on London's music scene since the Sinfonietta first commissioned a work from him six years ago.

But what the audience on London's South Bank will not know is that Mr Holt is also a familiar figure at the Department of Health and Social Security offices in Balham, south London, where he collects £60.80 a fortnight and £53 a week for the rent of his basement flat.

The plight of well-known composers living close to the breadline is being highlighted as part of a campaign for a blank tape levy mounted by the Performing Rights Society

to compensate musicians for the home taping of their work.

The society claims the levy, which would raise about £7 million a year, is desperately needed because more than 90 per cent of composers on its register earn less than £5,000 a year from royalties.

"A levy is not about making them rich; it is about whether they eat on Thursdays", Mr Michael Freeguard, the society's chief executive, said.

Mr Holt knows all about the battle to make sure he can eat on Thursdays. His first work for the Sinfonietta, *Kites*, took him nine months to write and, although critically acclaimed, earned him just £400. His next two commissions earned him £375 and £675. He was paid £1,200 by the Arts Council for his turbulent *Ballad of the Black Sorrow*, chosen for the Sinfonietta's twentieth birthday concert in January, but it took him four months to write. *Symphony*, which received its

premiere at last summer's Proms, earned him £2,500, but again took four months.

He doubts whether he has earned £10,000 from his music since turning professional in 1982.

"Music needs total concentration. I am either thinking about a piece or writing it the whole time. Towards the end I am working at three in the morning. You cannot work at that intensity if you have a day job like teaching", Mr Holt says.

Unfortunately, there is a reluctance by orchestras to play a new work that has already been played somewhere else and it can take years before a piece is heard again.

Meanwhile, Mr Holt was tempted to frame his last royalty cheque from the Performing Rights Society. It amounted to 7p, and in a rare fit of pique he tore it up.

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Labour's 'Ford silence' brings Tory onslaught

The Leader of the Opposition's silence, and the refusal of Labour to criticise the T & G over the proposed Ford plant at Dundee, disgraced any claims they made about having the Scottish economy's interest at heart, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, said during Commons questions.

Mr Alex Eadie (Midlothian, Lab) said that there was concern in Scotland at the role of the Secretary of State in furthering the economy. Why did Mr Rifkind constantly denigrate the situation in Dundee? Why was he always destructive rather than constructive?

Had he further talks with Ford and did he plan any future talks with the company?

The Scottish people did not trust Mr Rifkind because of his attitude in relation to the proposed murder of the Scottish deep mining industry which would lose tens of thousands of jobs.

Mr Rifkind: Having taken part in the negotiations which led to the decision by Ford to come to Dundee in the first place, I do not think I need any lectures from him about my interests in this matter.

Mr Michael Fallon (Dartford, C) asked which was more surprising, the intransigence of the TUC or the shameful silence by the eight members of the Labour Party who were sponsored by the T & G?

Mr Rifkind said that the failure of the Leader of the

Opposition and those members sponsored by the T & G to make their position known had done a great disservice to the interests of the Scottish economy.

The TUC had that morning ratified by a significantly larger majority, the 11-10 decision taken by one of their committees, to accept a single-union approach at Dundee.

"That is an important step in the right direction. It is, however, unfortunate that we appear to be in a situation where the T & G maintain their opposition to that proposal in the vote which took place today."

"I think it is important that we should obtain some qualification from the T & G as to whether in the light of the vote that took place today, they now accept the policy of the TUC."

Mr John McAllion (Dundee East, Lab) said that he was glad to hear that the Government had taken a chink of light open that it might intervene in support of Dundee's unemployed workers.

On Tuesday the Ford workers at Dagenham, widely regarded as the most militant within the Ford network in Britain, had decided not to black any components if, and only if, the plant was located in Dundee.

Mr Rifkind said that any evidence that the T & G was being brought into the twentieth century was to be welcomed and if Mr Todd was able to repeat the views expressed at Dagenham that too would make an important contribution.

"I think the Opposition would appreciate that I have to use my best judgement as to whether, and in what way, Ford should be asked to reconsider their decision."

The TUC had now endorsed the agreement originally reached with Ford, but it remained the case that the T & G, the main union that had alone been an obstacle to progress, had not changed its mind about the position in one significant way.

The House had to wait and hear what the union's decision would be.

He said that Mr Neil Kinnock should support the views now endorsed by the TUC and the Government.

Sir Hector Moore (Dumfries, C) said that this was one of the most miserable moments in trade union and Labour Party history. Had there been any word from the T & G about their present position?

Mr Rifkind said that he had had no such indication either from the TUC or from the union. The damage the union had done was totally unnecessary, resulting from its extraordinarily primitive attitude.

Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said that Mr Gavin Laird, president of the AEU, had said on television that morning that what had happened at the TUC meetings had been a breakthrough. He had been confident that the agreement would hold.

"Is it not the height of irresponsibility for anyone, let alone a government minister, to give the impression that he does not believe that is the position?"



Mr Rifkind, who welcomed the TUC decision, but wished it had come five months earlier

Scottish Office down by 19%

The number of Scottish Office staff has fallen by 19 per cent since 1979 while local authority staff had fallen only slightly, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Under Secretary of State for Scotland, said at question time.

He told Mr Neil Hamilton (Tatton, C) that the number of full-time equivalent staff employed by Scottish local authorities had fallen from 253,000 on March 31, 1979, to 247,000 in 1987.

Mr Hamilton described the figures as a "disappointment". In many local authorities, especially Labour-controlled ones, the number employed had risen.

Aids cases rise to 1,344

The total number of reported cases of Aids in the United Kingdom at the end of February was 1,344, Mr Tony Newton, Minister of Health, said in a written Commons reply.

He said that at the end of December 1987, there were 8,016 reported HIV antibody-positive people, but the true number infected was likely to be considerably greater.

"Consideration of the risk behaviour groups of people reported as antibody positive shows that the great majority are male homosexuals or bisexuals, or injecting drug misusers, but in about 5 per cent of the cases the infection is thought to have been acquired heterosexually."

Cornish tin debate denied

Mr Matthew Taylor (Truro, SLD) unsuccessfully sought an emergency debate on the sale by Rio Tinto Zinc, with Glencore, of its Cornish tin mining interests, resulting in 200 redundancies.

He said that there had been an agreement in 1986 that jobs and investment would be maintained in a five-year programme.

The sale was said to be a management and worker buyout, but workers would have access to only a fifth of the shares, which would be held in a trust and not freely available to them anyway.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said he regretted that the matter was not appropriate for discussion under the emergency procedure.

Torture move

The Government is to introduce amendments to the Criminal Justice Bill, now before Parliament, to enable the United Kingdom to ratify the United Nations Convention against Torture later this year, Mr Timothy Eggar, Under Secretary of State, Foreign Office, said in a written reply.

Diabetic help

Blood-glucose testing strips will be available on prescription from general practitioners free to insulin-dependent diabetics from June 1, Lord Skelmersdale, Under Secretary of State for Social Services, said during questions in the House of Lords.

Output is up

Manufacturing output in Scotland in the second quarter of 1987 was 5 per cent up on a year earlier, Mr Ian Lang, Minister of State, Scottish Office, said in a written reply. Surveys pointed to a further strong rise in the second half of 1987.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions, Northern Ireland; Prime Minister, Education Reform Bill, report, third day. Lords (3): Regional Development Grants (Termination) Bill, second reading. Hampshire Radio Station Bill, second reading.

Help for special-needs pupils

The following report of the Commons debate on the first day of the report stage of the Education Reform Bill appeared in later editions yesterday.

There was approval from MPs of all sides for a package of proposals to exclude schoolchildren with special educational needs from the provisions of the Bill's national curriculum.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, moved a clause, taken with other amendments, to the Bill at the start of the report stage.

He said that the Government was concerned about children who were physically or mentally handicapped. There was a growing tendency to educate in ordinary schools children who had previously been taught in special schools.

A child in a junior school of 400 pupils had access to a wider range of curricular opportunities than they might have in a special school with 150 pupils or fewer. To get the full benefit of a junior school, a child needed to be supported by special services.

Mr Baker then turned to another new clause under which head teachers could exempt individual pupils from the national curriculum for six months. It gave parents the right to appeal to governing bodies should a direction be given contrary to their wishes.

He said that that gave the right degree of flexibility while guaranteeing that pupils with behavioural problems or with temporary needs, such as taking a "crash course" in English as a second language, could not be denied the benefits of the national curriculum for too long.

The new clause and amendments were agreed.

Mr Derek Fatchett, an Opposition spokesman on education, moved a clause under which the Secretary of State could require local authorities to provide educational maintenance allowances for pupils aged 16 to 19.

He said that the aim was to make it possible for all young people to stay in education and, effectively, to raise the school-leaving age to 18, without making it compulsory.

That new clause was withdrawn, but another Opposition new clause requiring the Secretary of State to lay before Parliament a report on education and training for 16 to 19-year-olds within six months of Royal Assent of the Act was rejected by 271 votes to 205 - Government majority, 66.

Mr Ann Clegg, an Opposition spokesman on education, moved a new clause to put a duty on local education authorities to provide nursery education for children under school age whose parents desired it.

The new clause was rejected by 265 votes to 209 - Government majority, 56.

Mr Robert Dunn, Under Secretary of State for Education, said that it would be misconceived to impose a duty on education authorities to provide pre-school education.

The amendment was rejected by 261 votes to 204 - Government majority, 57.

Mr Norman Hogg, an Opposition spokesman on Scotland, moved a new clause to establish a Scottish subcommittee of the University Funding Council.

Mr Robert Jackson, Under Secretary of State for Education and Science, said that higher education in Britain was national and not territorial or regional. That was also the view of many Scottish universities.

If there was to be a national approach and a national planning framework for higher education, the same principles of public funding must apply to all institutions in the system.

The new clause was rejected by 265 votes to 209 - Government majority, 56.

Ministers 'have deliberately provoked crisis in NHS'

Lord Ennals, the former Secretary of State for Social Services, accused the Government of deliberately precipitating a crisis in the National Health Service to enable it to carry out a root-and-branch reorganization of its structure and financing.

He was initiating a debate on the NHS in the House of Lords in which peers agreed that more funds were needed, but differed on where they should come from.

During the debate Lord Skelmersdale, Under Secretary of State for Social Services, announced an extra £15 million for health authorities in London and the North-west to meet short-term costs of planned changes in the health service. Most would go to inner cities and it would ensure that acute services in London were maintained.

He also announced an allocation to regional health authorities of a further 55 consultant posts.

Lord Ennals (Lab) said that he was making a plea to the Government for a generous fortieth birthday present to the NHS. Every day new evidence emerged of the malaise.

"Ministers really are deluding themselves if they think that those nurses who have been demonstrating up and down the country have been concerned just with their own pay. It is not so. They are concerned with the future of the NHS."

Lord Skelmersdale said that the NHS was better funded with more trained staff than at any time in its history.

Next year it would cost about £21.5 billion - an increase of more than £1 billion on this year's allocation alone.

"Even on current plans, every family in the land will pay some £31 a week towards it. Hardly peanuts, my Lords!"

"Let me state and state categorically that the fundamental principle of the health service is not in question. Access to medical care should not be dependent on the ability to pay. Nor has it been since 1948, nor is it now, nor will it be in the future."

In his maiden speech the Bishop of Guildford, Dr Michael Adie, recalled being "scooped up" off the pavement in London and taken to a teaching hospital recently where they could not provide him with a pair of pyjamas even though he was admitted to a mixed ward.

Whatever the future of the NHS, its comprehensiveness of health care was an asset to be maintained.

Abortion measure starts committee stage

Alton Bill overcomes first obstacle

By John Winder

Mr David Alton's abortion Bill overcame an important obstacle in the Commons yesterday when the committee charged with considering it agreed by a majority of one to devote three days a week to the task.

The Abortion (Amendment) Bill, sponsored by the SLD MP for Liverpool, Mossley Hill, would reduce from 28 weeks the stage at which abortions, in general, could no longer be carried out.

At the first session of the standing committee on the Bill, its opponents advanced a wide variety of reasons, including a veritable kaleidoscope of previous engagements, for sitting only on Wednesdays, as is the case with most private members' Bills.

However, the committee rejected, by nine votes to eight, amendments to sit only on Wednesday or only in the mornings, and carried by nine votes to eight the proposition for a full three-day attack on the details of the Bill.

The committee has 18 MPs, plus the chairman, Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C). It divided into an unfamiliar pattern, with some Conservative MPs joining Labour on the opposition side against the Bill, facing Mr Alton and his supporters.

The whole of the first day was given over to debate on the question of when the committee will sit. Mr Alton moved that the committee should sit on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10.30am and 4.30pm. That could lead to all-night sittings, but Mr Alton promised that he had no intention that that should happen.

Miss Jo Richardson (Barking, Lab), who is leading the opposition to the Bill, moved an amendment that it should be considered only on Wednesdays, disclosing that if her amendment failed and she had to attend the Thursday sitting, it would mean her missing the weekly meeting of the Labour Party national executive for the first time since her election in 1979.

She congratulated Mr Alton on his recent engagement, wished him a happy marriage and "lots of happy healthy children", but suggested that these might be better enhanced by not having long sittings on the Bill.

The old animosities about dirty tricks alleged to have been used by the proponents of the Bill surfaced several times and Dr Lewis Moonie

(Kirkcaldy, Lab) said that he had found objectionable the tactics of the Bill's supporters in resorting to prayer and fasting.

Mrs Teresa Gorman (Bilmerston, C) said that opponents of the Bill had been subjected to pressure in their constituencies.

Miss Ann Widdecombe (Maidstone, C), a supporter of the Bill, wondered how prayer could be a dirty trick.

Mrs Joan Ruddock (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab), thought that her constituents, coping with the Government-caused problems of the inner cities, might feel prayer an inappropriate weapon, but that those who believed in the power of prayer clearly did not need to inform the person who was the object of that prayer to make it effective.

Given the small proportion of women MPs in the House, the committee has a large number of women - eight - among the eighteen members. They include Mrs Edwina Currie.



Miss Jo Richardson: May miss engagements

Dates of birth are to stay in community charge register

A call for people's dates of birth to be left out of the community charge register was rejected by Mr Ian Lang, Minister of State, Scottish Office, during questions. He said that the dates would be included to help registration officers in establishing clearly the community charge liability of individuals.

Mrs Maria Fyfe (Glasgow, Maryhill, Lab), who made the request, said that in Scotland there was to be a "national identity number" composed of a name and date of birth, but that would not be so in England. What would Mr Lang say to Scottish people who sent back registration forms, saying that they did not understand this imposition?

Mr Lang said that dates of birth did not lead to a national registration process, although they might be used by local authorities to help to identify individuals.

Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West, Lab) said that the entire Act should be scrapped. A recent MORI poll found that 75 per cent of Scots opposed the poll tax, including 40 per cent of Tory supporters.

Mr Lang said he would have had more respect for such comments had Labour come forward with alternative proposals for raising local government finance.

Mr James Maxwell, an Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said that the Statutory Instruments Committee had said that that part of the instrument laid before the House was illegal.

Mr Lang said that the comments of the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments referred to minor and technical matters and did not undermine the validity of the regulations.

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Howe - the key person in the jigsaw

How long will Mr Nigel Lawson stay on as Chancellor? This is the most popular political guessing game around at the moment. But much more is involved than that.

Every time the argument between him and the Prime Minister over exchange rate policy is stirred up again, as it was this week by Lord Young of Graffham's comments, there is a flurry in Conservative ranks. Senior Conservative MPs are more disturbed than may be generally appreciated.

But the effect of this fracas will be more lasting. If Mr Lawson goes before the next Budget it will now be taken as a reflection on Mrs Thatcher's leadership.

Had this dispute never blown up, his possible departure would have been seen in quite a different light. The loss of a successful Chancellor would have been regretted. But it would have seemed understandable that he should make a bit of money for his family, and it would not have implied a political crisis.

This explanation will no longer carry conviction, however, if he leaves the Government later this year. It would be assumed that he had either been forced out or had found Mrs Thatcher just too much to put up with. Whatever gushing tributes they paid each other would not be believed.

It would also force a major Cabinet reshuffle that Mrs Thatcher would otherwise probably prefer to leave for a year. She has an instinctive and thoroughly healthy reluctance to keep moving her ministers around.

That can sometimes provide an illusion of dynamic leadership, but it never allows them to get on top of their jobs and is in fact a prescription for Civil Service control. The officials are then the only ones who really understand the work.

But Mrs Thatcher would presumably not want to keep the same ministers running all the three major departments - the Treasury, the Foreign Office and the Home Office - throughout this Parliament. That would mean going into a 1991 election with all the faces at the top unchanged since 1985, and with the same Foreign Secretary and Chancellor since 1983.

That would give an impression not just of continuity, but of immobility. Nothing would be more likely to provoke the cry of "time for a change".

But there is no sign that either Sir Geoffrey Howe or Mr Douglas Hurd is in any hurry to move, and to shift either of them this year against his will would seem premature and ungrateful.

The key person in this jigsaw is Sir Geoffrey. Mr Hurd might be sent to the Foreign Office. For Sir Geoffrey only the elder statesman's mantle is waiting, unless Mrs Thatcher herself were to retire within the next couple of years.

It had always been assumed until recently that he would in due course become Lord Chancellor if he was unable to compete for the premiership. But that assumption can no longer be made now that Lord Mackay of Clashfern has settled in so well on the Woolsack.

If Mr Lawson were to insist on staying from the Treasury this year there would surely be no vacancy at the Foreign Office. There would presumably be no alternative but to allow him to leave the Government. But that would at least open up space at the top. It would increase the chances of Sir Geoffrey remaining Foreign Secretary for quite a while longer.

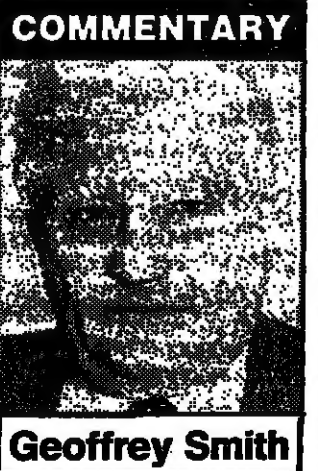
If, however, Mr Lawson were to stay at the Treasury for another year his claims to the Foreign Office would be much stronger. All the more so if Mrs Thatcher were to drop a hint, or more, in the hope of keeping him at his post in the meantime.

Mrs Thatcher might still hesitate to move Sir Geoffrey against his wishes. She owes him a great deal, he is widely respected as Foreign Secretary, he is tenacious and is one of the wisest political strategists.

If he never becomes Prime Minister, he would seem cut out for the role of Conservative elder statesman at some stage. But he is obviously reluctant to allow that stage to come too soon. He clearly does not yet want to drop out of the front line and thereby give up his chance of succeeding Mrs Thatcher.

Yet by the autumn of 1989 she may well want to give herself some room for manoeuvre at the top of the Cabinet. It will be at least half way through the Parliament, which is far enough from the last election to allow senior ministers to be moved on with dignity and far enough from the next election to give their successors time to run in.

How that room is created, either this year or next, may be critically influenced by Mr Lawson's relationship with Mrs Thatcher. Whether he goes, and how soon he goes, will have a lasting effect on her third Administration.



Geoffrey Smith

COMMENTARY

Stalled police claims

Advertise in the Sunday Times

Stalker rebuked by police chiefs over claims in memoirs

Mr John Stalker, former deputy head of Greater Manchester police, was publicly rebuked yesterday by the Association of Chief Police Officers for allegedly breaching police confidentiality and investigation rules by publishing his memoirs last month.

The association, which normally avoids open criticism of its members, issued an unprecedented statement implicitly criticising Mr Stalker, rejecting allegations in his book, and defending senior officers, including three chief constables.

It also expressed "major concern" that Mr Stalker had allegedly confided in a Manchester journalist as he carried out his investigation into an alleged "shoot-to-kill" policy operated by the Royal Ulster Constabulary against the IRA.

It assured the public that the police continued to place importance on the need for its investigations to be surrounded by confidentiality, and said the association was supported by the leadership of all other ranks in the police.

The statement was issued by Mr Roger Birch, chief constable of Sussex and president of the association, after discussion within the top level of the organization, which covers more than 200 officers at the rank of assistant chief constable and above.

Mr Birch said in the statement that in May 1986 the association wrote to each member giving advice on memoirs. The letter reflected an agreement in principle that nothing should be published which was prejudicial to

police operations or security, and that officers should not disclose confidential information or investigation rules.

A matter of major concern to the association is the reported disclosure by Mr Stalker to the editor of the *Manchester Evening News* of confidential information gathered during the investigation into the alleged "shoot-to-kill" policy.

"In the interests of maintaining public confidence it is a matter of considerable importance to members of my association that the confidentiality of public inquiries should always be upheld."

Mr Stalker's book criticized three chief constables and a number of more junior members of the association.

After issuing the statement, Mr Birch denied that it was simply a defence of senior officers, attacking Mr Stalker, saying that the Police Superintendents' Association and the Police Federation both supported the statement.

Mr Stalker, who said in his biography that he was pleased to have been asked to remain a member of the association after his retirement last year, said yesterday: "I breached no guidelines, nor, as I have repeatedly said, did I disclose sensitive information whilst I was conducting the RUC investigation."

A formal complaint was immediately lodged at the time with the newspaper concerned on behalf of myself and others mentioned in it.

"My book paints an honest, but less than favourable picture of one or two of my former colleagues and I know that the association will have been under pressure to issue a rebuke of some sort to me."

Mr Birch said Mr Stalker could be expelled from the association, but no such motion had been put before the executive.



Mr Stalker. His book criticized three chief constables and a number of more junior members of the association.

Music bewitches the wolf pack



Thomas Randle, the American opera singer who makes his London debut as Tamino in Mozart's *The Magic Flute* at the Coliseum next week, bewitching the wolves (Karen Halliday, Sylvia Byrne, Jocelyn Bowlan, Sue Stevens, Barbara Rhodes and Mary Ann Kraus) during rehearsals for the opera at the theatre yesterday (Photograph: John Rogers).

Countess fined after refusing breath test

A policeman had to call for reinforcements after a struggle with the Countess of Mount Edgumbe, magistrates at Liskeard, Cornwall, were told yesterday.

Lady Mount Edgumbe, aged 46, was allegedly seen "crawling" to her car at 11.40pm by a friend of the licensee of the Edgumbe Arms. He invited her back into the public house for coffee and a lift home. She refused.

PC Alan Pennington, aged 29, found the defendant sitting in the driver's seat holding the car keys.

"It was clear she had been drinking," Mr David Gittins, for the prosecution, said. "She refused to give a breath test and became somewhat violent and PC Pennington had to radio for help."

Lady Mount Edgumbe said in court that she had gone to the car to get cigarettes and had no intention of driving.

She was found guilty of one charge of failing to give two breath tests, was fined £130 with £25 costs and received 10 penalty points.

Test showed Tube fire could have been arson

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

A test conducted to demonstrate that the King's Cross fire could have been started deliberately had shown that grease on escalator tracks could be ignited in three seconds.

The inquiry into the disaster was told yesterday that an unauthorized person could easily have gained access to the underside of the escalator where the fire broke out.

Two weeks ago, three witnesses told the inquiry they had seen an unidentified man in blue overalls near

a trap door leading under the Piccadilly Line escalators shortly before the fire was discovered.

London Regional Transport said there was no possibility of arson must be fully explored.

On the second day of the inquiry, eight weeks ago, Mr Lionel Read, QC, for London Regional Transport, said there was concern that an arsonist might be abroad with a predilection for starting fires on the Underground.

The trial to simulate the start of the fire was carried out by London Regional Transport at Green Park Underground station in February.

three months after the fire.

Green Park was selected because its three wooden escalators resembled those on which the fire had occurred at King's Cross.

Mr Gabriel Izenicki, a lift and escalator maintenance manager, described how he had demonstrated that access could be gained to the escalator's lower machine chamber through a hatch and by descending a metal ladder.

He had introduced unlit balls of paper into the moving escalator tracks and under the skirting beside the treads. He had also inserted a burning

taper into grease, which was between 3mm and 6mm deep on the tracks of an escalator which was stationary.

Reading from a statement by Mr Izenicki, Mr Read said: "The lighted taper was only in contact with the grease for about three seconds."

"That was enough to set it alight, was it?" Mr Read asked.

"Yes," Mr Izenicki responded.

He believed that the trial had adequately demonstrated that it could be done by an individual without any specialized knowledge of escalators.

The inquiry continues today.

A surprise among the Scandinavians

Although it is only in the past few years that the London art world has taken up nineteenth and early twentieth century Scandinavian painting, the taste is soundly enough established to react as older markets do in uncertain financial times. The best sellers very often go to private collectors rather than the trade, while lesser works are sold more rigorously and often passed by.

However, in a sale of Scandinavian paintings at Sotheby's yesterday which began with a large Scandinavian section, there was at least one surprise. This was an impressionist, possibly painted still life of roses and honeysuckles in a basket, dated 1842, by the Dane, Johan Laurentz Jensen. It sold for £20,000 against a reasonable ceiling estimate of between £15,000 and £20,000.

The top price was paid for a composition of two naked girls in a wood, dated 1908, by Anders Zorn, which made £493,000 (estimate £350,000 to £500,000). An anonymous private buyer paid £236,500 and £231,000 for two watercolours by another popular Swedish artist, Carl Larsson, sold to an American collector for £1210 against an estimate of between £40 and £60.

by Peter Evans

The auction of the Scandinavian paintings, rather than the impressionist and modernist works, was the highlight of the day. The top price was paid for a composition of two naked girls in a wood, dated 1908, by Anders Zorn, which made £493,000 (estimate £350,000 to £500,000). An anonymous private buyer paid £236,500 and £231,000 for two watercolours by another popular Swedish artist, Carl Larsson, sold to an American collector for £1210 against an estimate of between £40 and £60.

About one third of this sale was bought in, and this was also true of a sale of Chinese snuff bottles at Sotheby's, where the top price was £12,100 for a rare black jade 'Seahorse' bottle, dating from between 1750 and 1850 (estimate £12,000 to £16,000).

In a sale of toys at Phillips, Mickey Mouse triumphed yet again when a Linemar tinplate toy, Mickey the Magician, sold to an American collector for £1210 against an estimate of between £40 and £60.

Qualified parents set pattern for children

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Highly qualified parents tend to have children who also become highly qualified, according to a new form of analysis of data from the 1971 and 1981 censuses.

Comparison between two sets of information about half a million people in England and Wales shows that fewer than 10 per cent of children of unqualified parents attained higher qualifications by 1981.

But 35 per cent of persons aged 8-25 in 1971, whose parents both had higher qualifications at that time, had also obtained qualifications by 1981.

Where only one parent had a higher qualification in 1971, the proportion of successful children fell to 26 per cent.

The census comparisons, which provide new information on changes in the population, were published yesterday by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

One third of persons recorded as divorced in 1971 were remarried at the time of the 1981 census. For those aged between 25 and 34 in 1971, almost 60 per cent were remarried in 1981.

Just over half the sample had changed address during the 10 year period, although most had moved a relatively short distance. Only 10 per cent had moved to a different region.

The report shows that the private rented unfurnished sector shrank by more than a third.

Census 1971-81: The Longitudinal Study (Stationery Office: £10.70).

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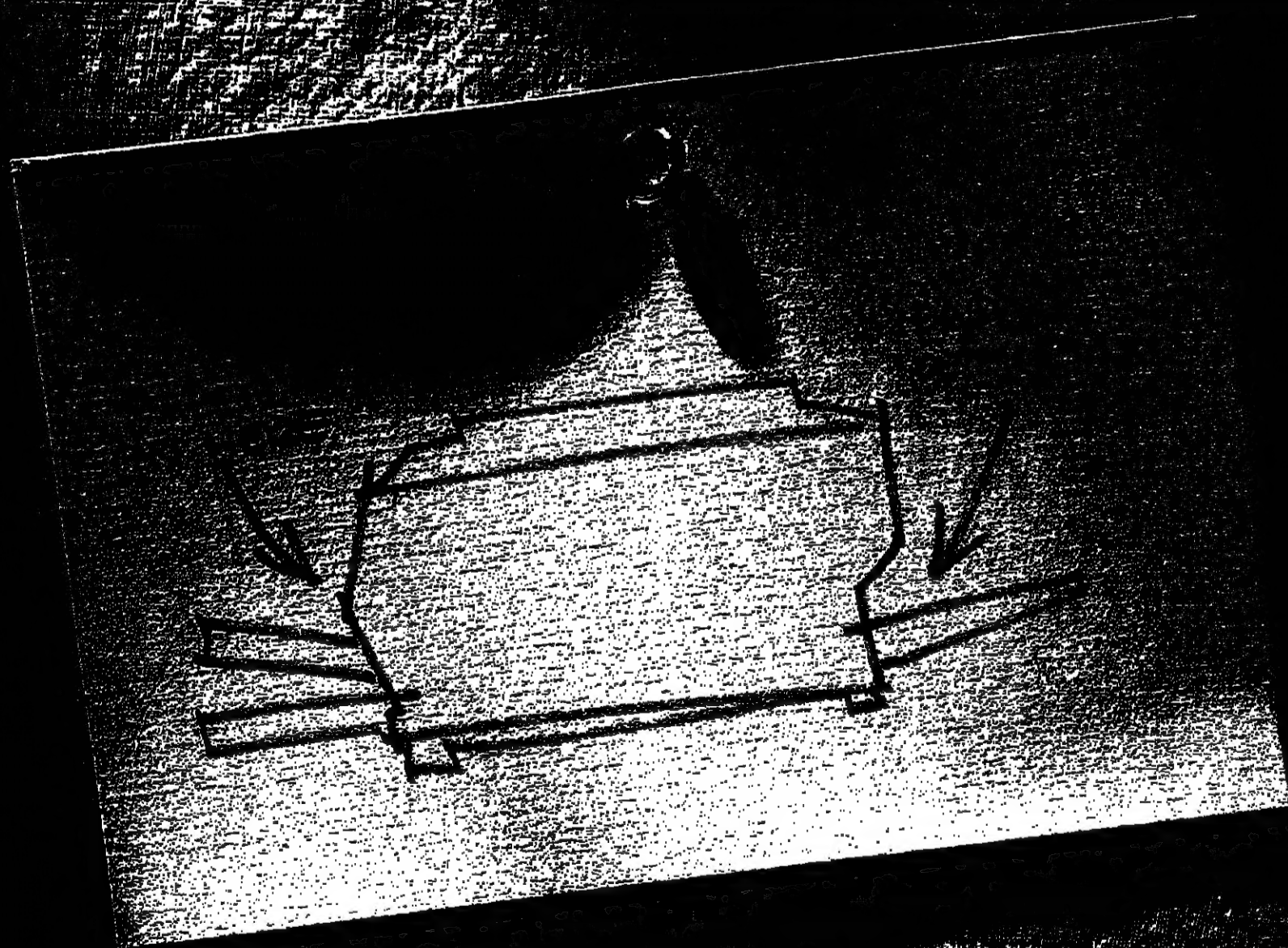
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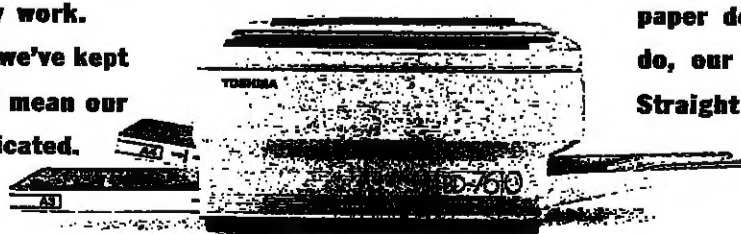
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copy sizes from A5 to A3. And both offer a 3-Way Paper Supply with options of Automatic Document Feeder and Collator.

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through the copier, virtually eliminates the chance of misfeeding. It's simple when you know how.

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TODAY - TOMORROW
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Judge's
on prop
rights
'gay' co

By Frances Gresham
Homosexual rights have been granted to the same extent as heterosexual rights in the new Sexual Offences Act, which will be introduced in the House of Commons today. The new law, which is a result of a report by the Law Commission, will allow a man to be charged with a sexual offence only if he is a man, and a woman only if she is a woman. This means that a man who has sex with a man, or a woman who has sex with a woman, will be charged with a sexual offence. The new law will also allow a man to be charged with a sexual offence if he has sex with a man, or a woman if she has sex with a woman, even if the man or woman is not a man or a woman. This means that a man who has sex with a man, or a woman who has sex with a woman, will be charged with a sexual offence. The new law will also allow a man to be charged with a sexual offence if he has sex with a man, or a woman if she has sex with a woman, even if the man or woman is not a man or a woman. This means that a man who has sex with a man, or a woman who has sex with a woman, will be charged with a sexual offence.

Suicide 'was for
of the unemployed

The Labour Party's new policy on unemployment is a result of a report by the Labour Party's Commission on Unemployment. The new policy, which is a result of a report by the Labour Party's Commission on Unemployment, will allow a man to be charged with a sexual offence only if he is a man, and a woman only if she is a woman. This means that a man who has sex with a man, or a woman who has sex with a woman, will be charged with a sexual offence. The new law will also allow a man to be charged with a sexual offence if he has sex with a man, or a woman if she has sex with a woman, even if the man or woman is not a man or a woman. This means that a man who has sex with a man, or a woman who has sex with a woman, will be charged with a sexual offence.

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Judge's plea on property rights for 'gay' couples

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Homosexual couples in a stable relationship should be granted the same property rights as unmarried heterosexual couples, a High Court judge said last night.

Mrs Justice Booth, one of only four women High Court judges, said: "I would find it very difficult to apply different principles to the homosexual couple who have been a stable union for some time and have acquired property within that union, to the unmarried couple in the same situation."

Where children were concerned, unmarried couples were not discriminated against in the courts, the judge said. "We apply precisely the same principles in determining the future of children of married couples as those of unmarried couples."

The main difference with unmarried couples was in property rights; courts do not have the wide jurisdiction that they have where couples are married to adjust property and to make settlements or order lump sums.

Mrs Justice Booth, who was being interviewed by the journalist, Hugo Young, as part of a Radio 4 series, *The Judges*, said where homosexuals were concerned, they should be treated the same as other unmarried couples.

The question of a homosexual couple and property rights had not yet come before the courts. "But I cannot see any reason why a homosexual couple should not be treated in respect of property rights in precisely the same way as an unmarried couple of the opposite sex."

Mrs Justice Booth also said how hard it was to tell a parent that he or she could no longer see their own children. But this had sometimes to be done because a mother, perhaps

through the fault of her own, might be unable to provide the children with the stability and security they need.

"To tell a woman who has loved that she can't see her children again, that is very difficult."

It could also arise with a father and that was equally hard, the judge said. If the mother was unable to contemplate access between the children and the father, and the father could not offer them a home, it might be "at the end of the day it is better, from the children's point of view, not to force the issue of access."

The father may have done nothing to deserve that outcome, but if they be necessary to tell him that he can't see his children, at any rate for a time. That's very difficult."

The judge also said that care proceedings for children were a "total mess". There were so many statutes, dealing with children and matrimonial proceedings that the law was a "total jumble" and "very confusing" and required looking at as a matter of priority. The Lord Chancellor has already made clear that he favours looking at the law on families and children first, and then moving to the court structure and a possible family court.

But the judge said she did not think children should be involved in court proceedings to see their parents in court. "To have that, they were the subject matter of dispute could only be traumatic for them," she said.

"Also, I do think that there is a great danger in letting children think that they may be determining the judgement of the court and that they are responsible for deciding with which parent they should live, or whether they should see a parent or not."

Suicide 'was for plight of the unemployed'

The unemployed man whose burnt body was found at the charred remains of his car in the entrance to Downing Street was not the only man to kill himself because of the Government's unemployment policy, his brother told an inquest yesterday.

The hearing at Westminster, central London, recorded that Derek Bainbridge, aged 40, of Syon Street, Workson, Nottinghamshire, killed himself.

Although he was too badly burnt to be recognized by Paul Knapman, the coroner, decided that a note stating "Too young to retire, too old to live", found at the dead man's home, was a farewell note.

Fire investigation experts discovered empty cans of petrol-soaked material in the

hall of the car, which was parked in a garage on the entrance to Downing Street.

De laun West, a pathologist, said that Mr Bainbridge died from shock due to burns.

Theresa's mother, Mr Joseph Bainbridge, a lorry driver, of Victoria Road, Workson, told Dr Knapman: "We have no doubts in our minds it was Derek."

After the hearing, Mr Bainbridge, who emphasized that he was speaking for himself and not his family, said the inquest had shown that his brother took his life to draw attention to the plight of the unemployed.

Later, Mr Bainbridge headed for Downing Street to present Mrs Margaret Thatcher with a photograph of his brother.

High-speed lifeboat on parade



The world's fastest and one of its finest lifeboats is on parade in British waters this week. The 15-ton, Johannes Frederik, built by the Royal North and South Holland Lifeboat Institution - seen off Dorset (above) - is the fruit of Dutch collaboration over several years with the British Royal National Lifeboat Institution in the development of large rigid-hull inflatable boats (RHIBs). The boat's design consultant is David Stogdon, a former RNLI inspector.

The Johannes Frederik is highly manoeuvrable, draws only 80 centimetres, which enables it to work in shallow waters; and with a speed of 28 knots is two or three times faster than most conventional lifeboats.

The Dutch director, Charles van der Zweep, and his crew visited the RNLI headquarters at Poole, Dorset, to thank the organization for its help and to demonstrate the boat, which is circumnavigating Britain to give the crew experience of differing sea conditions and to demonstrate the vessel to lifeboat crews.

(Photographs: Deniz McNeelance)



David Stogdon, the design consultant for the lifeboat

MPs call oil chiefs in price fixing inquiry

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

A Commons select committee investigating allegations of petrol price fixing yesterday ordered directors of Shell, BP and Esso to appear before it in person to answer the charges.

The all-party trade and industry committee took the unprecedented step of dismissing witnesses sent to give evidence by the three multinational companies because they were not responsible for making policy.

In a session that lasted barely five minutes, Mr Kenneth Warren, the chairman, asked Mr John Bamberg, manager of Shell's retail division, and Mr Nick Paterson, manager of its retail sales department, to name the directors to whom they answered, and then abruptly ended the proceedings.

The committee's action came after a meeting last week at which the Petrol Retailers' Association, representing 8,000 petrol stations, and Mr Eric Dunkerley, a Lancashire Shell petrol station owner, detailed ways in which the oil companies were apparently controlling prices while maintaining an illusion of competition.

The committee was also told that the Special Branch was investigating a burglary at

Mr Dunkerley's office three nights before he appeared to give evidence.

After yesterday's session, Shell released a memorandum which it had sent to the committee last week, rebutting point by point the allegations made against it by the retailers' association, and describing "Mr Dunkerley's evidence as so full of inaccuracies that it could not begin to comment on them."

It said the association's allegations were "potentially most damaging" to Shell, which "does not conduct its business in the way it has been represented to the committee."

Shell rejected allegations that the oil companies controlled independent wholesalers, enjoyed a stranglehold over petrol station owners through inequitable licence agreements, operated a formal cartel to fix pump prices, delayed reductions in pump prices after falls in world oil prices, and had ordered price boards to be removed from its petrol stations.

The committee believes one side is not telling the truth and is determined to get to the bottom of what one member described after the first meeting as "a cap of worms".

20 March SUNDAY TV

BBC 1

8.28 **Blackadder the Third**

Awarded Best Comedy Series.

Produced by John Lloyd.

8.50 **The Really Wild Show**

Awarded Best Children's Programme

(Documentary/Educational)

Produced by Mike Brynion.

9.14 **Fortunes of War**

Emma Thompson

Awarded Best Television Actress

for her performances in

Fortunes of War and *Tutti Frutti*.



This programme also won Best

Costume Design and Best Design

at the BAFTA Craft Awards.

9.42 **Esther Rantzen**

Received the Richard Dimbleby

Award for her outstanding

contribution to factual programming.

10.21 **Julia Smith**

Received the Desmond Davis Award

for her outstanding contributions to

British Television - including

East Enders.

BBC 2

7.54 **Victoria Wood on TV**

Awarded Best Light

Entertainment Programme

Produced and Directed by Gresham

7.57 **Tutti Frutti**

Awarded Best Drama Series

Produced by Andy Park and

Directed by Tony Smith.

This programme also won Best

Make-up, Best Graphics, Best

Sound Supervisor and Best

Editor at the BAFTA Craft Awards.

8.01 **Horizon Special: Mystery**

Awarded Best Single Drama

Produced by Mick Jackson.

8.05 **The Duty Men**

Awarded Best Factual Series

Produced by Paul Hamman.

This programme also won Best

Film Sound and Best Film Editor

at the BAFTA Craft Awards.

8.47 **A Simple Man (L.S. Lowry)**

The Huw Wheldon Award

for the Best Arts Programme

Produced by Ian Squires.

Choreographed by Gillian Lynne.

9.28 **Yes, Prime Minister**

Robert Hawthorne

Awarded Best Light Entertainment

Performance.

The writers of *Yes, Prime Minister*

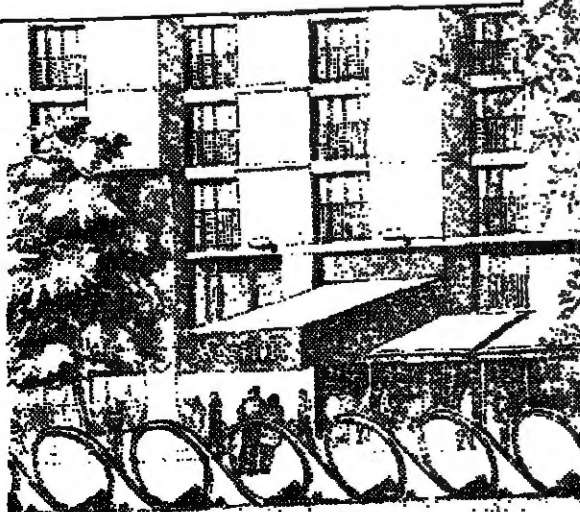
Anthony Jay and Jonathan Lynn

also received The Writer's Award.

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Kremlin refuses to change border

Moscow (Reuter) — The Soviet authorities told Armenians yesterday there could be no redrawing of internal borders, dashing their hopes of regaining the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet also ordered the authorities in Armenia and neighbouring Azerbaijan to restore order in their republics after ethnic riots in which at least 32 people were killed.

The resolution was passed at a special session after the Presidium had been addressed by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev. It rebuffed one of the largest popular movements in Soviet history that culminated last month in demonstrations by up to one million Armenians demanding the return of Nagorno-Karabakh from Azerbaijan.

"It is considered inadmissible... for all sorts of self-proclaimed groups to be created which call for the redrawing of state and administrative borders secured under the Soviet Constitution," the resolution said. It echoed an uncompromising article in *Pravda* on Monday.

Israeli jet raid

Sidon (Reuter) — Israeli jets raided guerrilla targets in southern Lebanon five times yesterday, killing or wounding at least 15 people, security sources said.

They said four aircraft fired at least 25 rockets and dropped time bombs over the hilltop villages of Abna, Bramiyeh, Shahrabil and Majdaloun near Sidon.

● JERUSALEM: Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Defence Minister, said yesterday that there were "signs of exhaustion" among the people of the West Bank and Gaza Strip after more than 3½ months of violence that has claimed more than 100 Palestinian lives (David Bernstein writes).

US under fire in UN

New York (AP) — The General Assembly yesterday voted overwhelmingly to condemn a US move to close the PLO mission to the United Nations, and the PLO vowed to fight the case in court.

The Assembly, in its second emergency session on the volatile issue, voted 148-2 to deplore the US action and urged it to abide by the international UN Headquarters Treaty, which allows foreign missions to operate.

The United States and Israel, which consider the PLO a terrorist organization, voted against the resolution. General Assembly resolutions are not legally binding.

Christians arrested

At least 23 evangelical Christians, including two Britons, are being held in Turkish jails without charge (Our Foreign Staff writes). Eleven were arrested in Ankara on Tuesday in what a senior diplomatic source described as a "systematic" clampdown on Christians by the Turkish authorities.

They included two British Christians, Mr Samuel Lidsone and Mr Michael John Cornex, both believed to be English teachers working in Ankara, two Americans, a German couple, a Swedish citizen, two South Koreans and a Turkish couple. Police raided homes and seized Bibles and religious pamphlets.

Nazi data banned

Washington — The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has barred the use of data from Nazi experiments on prisoners in an EPA report on the effects of a toxic gas on humans after some of the federal agency's scientists protested (Mehsin Ali writes).

The study aims to trace the effects of various doses of the gas phosgene, which is now widely used in the manufacture of pesticides and plastics. Nazi doctors exposed 52 prisoners to it in 1943 and 1944 to test a possible antidote. Four died. Some scientists defended use of the Nazi data, arguing that the information could help protect US public health.

Poll boost for Democrat

Dukakis 'best bet' to defeat Bush

From Michael Biryon, Washington

Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey, an influential Democrat frequently mentioned as a possible outside candidate for the presidency himself, yesterday endorsed Governor Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts as the Democratic nominee. His move came as a poll was published which suggested that Mr Dukakis was the only Democratic contender who could beat Vice-President George Bush in the presidential election.

Senator Bradley's endorsement adds valuable political weight to the Dukakis campaign, and is seen as a sign that leading Democrats are ready to unite behind him as the clear leader and probable nominee. It also sends a message to those urging Senator Bradley to run that he is not interested in doing so.

Mr Dukakis has also garnered the endorsements of Senator Christopher Dodd and Governor William O'Neill, the two leading Democrats in Connecticut, where a primary is being held at the end of this month.

Meanwhile a poll by ABC Television showed Mr Dukakis as the strongest Democratic challenger to Mr Bush,

whose nomination as the Republican candidate is assured. The survey showed him leading Mr Bush by 50 to 45 per cent if an election were held today. He would also beat Senator Robert Dole by 48 to 44 per cent.

No other Democrat would win if pitted against Mr Bush, the poll found. Senator Albert Gore and Congressman Richard Gephardt each trailed Mr Bush by 13 points. Even Governor Mario Cuomo of New York, also still mentioned as a compromise choice at a deadlocked convention, would be beaten by Mr Bush by 53 to 38 per cent. And the Rev Jesse Jackson, narrowly behind Mr Dukakis in the race for the Democratic nomination, fared worst of any Democrat if pitted against Mr Bush: he would lose by 58 to 34 per cent.

Mr Dukakis was given a further boost from London, where a primary was held of all registered American voters living abroad. He won, with 41 per cent of the vote, decisively beating Mr Jackson who came second with only 14 per cent.

Leading article, page 15

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

Exit the Sphinx, enter the Bruiser. The calculated ferocity with which M Francois Mitterrand went for his conservative opponents immediately after declaring that he would seek a second term as President took many observers here by surprise.

Looking straight into the television camera, M Mitterrand (who appears to have got his fighting weight down a bit) gave a clear warning to his main rivals that with four weeks to go before the first round of voting, the gloves are off with a vengeance.

Staking out the high ground of a perceived risk to France's "civil and social fabric" from the domination of unspecified (but unmistakably right-wing) political interests, the President has cast his campaign at a level where he can still profit from the aura of his office. Not once did he mention the Socialist Party, his own proud creation, and he never strayed far into describing his programme for the next seven years.

What it seems we are to get, when M Mitterrand finally deigns to join his principal conservative rivals, M Jacques Chirac and M Raymond Barre, on the hustings, is a much sharper-edged version of the Great Helmsman of France, underlain by some old-fashioned character assassination.

In other words, no more sonorous but empty addresses from the Elyse Palace; more harsh asides about those who place dogma before the interests of the people.

Even with the cushion of a 15 per cent and more lead in the opinion polls, Candidate Mitterrand needs clearly defined targets. For sound tactical reasons, the opening salvoes will be concentrated on M Chirac, his partner in two years of government by "collaboration".

Nobody could doubt that President Mitterrand had the Prime Minister in mind when he denounced "selfish special interests" in his broadcast. He landed a particularly telling punch (or low blow, according to taste) by dismissing the notion that running the Government qualified his rival for the Elyse: to be President of France, he declared without blushing, one must possess true "authority".

As these rude assaults make clear, the Mitterrand camp sees M Chirac as the man to beat. The accepted wisdom is that he is easier to cast as a dangerously divisive candidate than the essentially centrist M Barre. In the second round, goes the argument, M Mitterrand can occupy the centre ground in his familiar guise as Father of the Nation — not to mention the possibility of cashing

in on growing animosity towards M Chirac's RPR (Rally for the Republic Party) within M Barre's United Democratic Front.

It is true that opinion polls still show M Barre giving M Mitterrand a harder fight in the second round of

denunciation of the President's broadcast remarks — "language of a rare violence... that risks setting French citizens against each other" — was making the front pages. M Barre was photographed doing a spot of canvassing from a canoe in French Guyana (wearing a dark suit, naturally).

Nobody can tell how M Mitterrand, for all his apparent vitality at the age of 71, will cope with M Chirac's predictable onslaught during a campaign that will last six weeks. Senior RPR sources insist that the *renseignements généraux* — private surveys conducted by prefectures throughout the country — show M Chirac rapidly building up momentum among all classes of voter.

However vigorously the Socialists dismiss that today, it is worth recalling that M Mitterrand's last presidential adversary, M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, is said to have concluded that he would lose (despite a handy lead in the opinion polls) after examining the very same returns at about this stage of the 1981 election.

How best to confront Candidate Mitterrand is another matter: as commentators observe, this modern Merlin has seemingly bewitched the



voting on May 8. But they also indicate that his campaign is stilling that while M Chirac crams more and more meetings and rallies into a tireless day, this large and comfortable figure (memorably described as resembling a pre-war country doctor) is willing under the strain.

One's heart beat yesterday for his hard-pressed campaign managers, outspent, outpublicized, too often outmanoeuvred, despite their best efforts. While M Chirac's furious

French, dominating the presidential debate until now simply by delaying a decision on whether to stand again.

The wizard has apparently cast a special charm to protect himself against unfriendly consideration of a truly remarkable political past. Minister in 11 governments of varying shades in his time; cynical seducer and ultimate desecrator of the French Communist; outspoken foe of the Fifth Republic at its birth and stern critic of de Gaulle, he came to exploit the power of the Elyse as never before and now appears to consider himself (in company with other candidates) as the General's only legitimate heir.

A track record ripe for attack, in short: Mrs Thatcher would surely make a meal of it. Yet, up to now, the mud just would not stick: as opponents have discovered, whenever you think he is on the ropes M Mitterrand's brilliant political footwork gets him out of trouble. Not much point assailing him for five years of disastrous Socialist rule from 1981-85 when the 1988 model is busily polishing up an image as a man of the new radical centre.

With tempers flaring noticeably among the President's opponents, France's phoney electoral war now seems certain to give way to serious hostilities.

French presidential race

Mitterrand comes out fighting

President holds the high ground

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

With fully one-third of the French electorate still undecided who should be the next President, the countless *sondages* (opinion polls) now being inflicted on the public have to be interpreted with special care. President Mitterrand's refusal to announce his official candidacy until Tuesday evening is another factor that has yet to be taken into account.

But while some fall in his present high level of support can be expected now he is running, M Mitterrand is still upwards of 15 points ahead of the two mainstream conservatives, M Jacques Chirac and M Raymond Barre. Over the last six months his approval rating has generally been within the 37 to 40 per cent bracket. At no time has any opponent topped 24 per cent, and since M Barre achieved that level back in December, his campaign has faltered noticeably.

Judged by the most recent polls, M Chirac has more than made up all the once-considerable ground between him and his conservative rival. The inexhaustible Prime Minister is now up to three points ahead.

With attention now focusing on the Mitterrand candidacy, extensive polls commissioned during the past week give intriguing glimpses of how the nation viewed "Tonton" (uncle) on the eve of his announcement. His "satisfaction rating" of 55 per cent has never been higher, just topping that achieved by General de Gaulle in 1965, a massive 20 points and more ahead of the man he beat in 1981, the then incumbent President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing.

Viewed as a potential candidate for another seven-year term, M Mitterrand scored an exceptional 63 per cent, compared with a 49 per cent favourable response for M Barre, and 48 per cent for M Chirac. Asked about specific voting intentions, between 36 and 38 per cent of the elec-

Paris — Under the rules of the Fifth Republic, France elects its President for a seven-year term by universal suffrage under a two-round voting system (Susan MacDonald writes). The date for the first voting round in this year's presidential elections has been fixed for Sunday, April 24, with the second round on Sunday, May 8.

Anyone wishing to stand must first collect 500 official signatures of support in time for inclusion in the list of candidates to be published on April 8. The election campaign for the first round runs from April 8 to April 22.

The two candidates with the greatest number of votes in the first round will go forward to a run-off vote in the second round, the campaign for which runs from April 29 to May 6.

To make the picture even rosier for the 71-year-old President, he appears to enjoy significant support from voters under the age of 25; from French women, who seem for the first time to be more left-wing than the male electorate; and from an impressive range of the country's professional and intellectual classes.

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

France woke up yesterday morning to find its President and its Prime Minister candidates on opposing sides for next month's presidential elections.

The tone for what promises to be an acrimonious campaign was set by the President's first appointment as a candidate yesterday morning.

M Francois Mitterrand was booed by supporters of the Prime Minister, M Jacques Chirac, at a meeting with Paris university students. "It adds life to the campaign," he said. "I was beginning to get a bit bored myself."

Earlier M Mitterrand had

presided over the weekly Cabinet meeting with M Chirac and the full range of right-wing Ministers. They were all careful to emphasize that government business had been discussed as usual, although the meetings have become a forum for political manoeuvring during the two years of "collaboration".

The President's assertion, on the lines of General de Gaulle 20 years ago, that it was either him or the threat of civil disorder brought a swift reply from M Chirac that he had not been aware that democracy was in danger and a belated response from the other right-

wing candidate, M Raymond Barre, who speculated as to who would run the country while the President and the Prime Minister were at each other's throats.

President Mitterrand has distanced himself from his Socialist Party, hoping to appeal to a wider spectrum, but his aggressive opening salvo has made many feel that the elections are now wide open.

In a radio interview yesterday, the Secretary-General of the Socialist Party, M Lionel Jospin, was asked what M Mitterrand meant by referring to the right-wing groups

as bands rather than parties.

He answered by listing the tired old scandals which have half-emerged during the conservative's two years in power rather than their policies, which leaves the way open for the resurrection of even older scandals during the five years of Socialist rule.

Broad hints by M Jospin that the right-wing parties are in disarray and that some of M Barre's supporters could come over to their side if M Mitterrand were re-elected could backfire before the end of a campaign that, although still short on issues, is finally beginning to hot up.

Pretoria dismisses 'propaganda ploy'

Angola sees light at end of US peace initiative

From Jan Raath, Harare

The Angolan Government has made an optimistic assessment of recent diplomatic efforts to end its 14-year civil war.

Senhor Lopo do Nascimento, a senior central committee member of the ruling Movement for the Popular Liberation of Angola (MPLA), told a meeting of former heads of state here that "finally, we are seeing light at the end of tunnel".

Since January Dr Chester Crocker, the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, has met Angolan and

South Africa leaders in a new peace initiative.

Senhor do Nascimento told the meeting that Dr Crocker was negotiating an agreement to be signed by Angola, South Africa, Cuba and the South West African People's Organization.

He disclosed that among the terms being canvassed was that the headquarters of Mr Jonas Savimbi's rebel Unita movement would be withdrawn to eastern Zaire.

The Angolan Government had long insisted that South African forces be withdrawn from Angola and that it begin

implementation of United Nations resolutions for the independence of Namibia, and that both South Africa and the United States stop military aid to Unita.

The Luanda Government recently agreed, on American and South African insistence, that the estimated 20 000 Cuban troops based in southern Angola be withdrawn to the north of the 13th degree of latitude, which runs roughly through the centre of the country.

A timetable for this withdrawal has been presented to

Dr Crocker, but no details have emerged. South Africa has been pressing for a year, and Dr Crocker for two years, while the Angolans have previously regarded both as too rapid.

Observers see Senhor do Nascimento's disclosure on Unita as a strong indication that Angola will consent to negotiations with the rebel movement. Senhor do Nascimento cautioned that Luanda believed that South Africa would "try to play for time" and added that it was "up to international public opinion to press South Africa for

this agreement to come into effect".

He added: "But we think that for once it is possible to believe in a miracle."

● JOHANNESBURG: Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, called the Angolan move an attempt to "create expectations" that an agreement was imminent before any real progress had been made on the most important element of an agreement, namely the timetable for the withdrawal of Cuban troops (Michael Hornsby writes).

Mr Botha, who appeared to

have been caught off guard by the Angolan claims, did not, however, rule such an agreement out entirely. "I am not saying that an agreement is impossible, but that at the moment we are still very far from such an agreement."

Sources in the Department of Foreign Affairs said they saw the Angolan move as "a clever propaganda ploy."

● LUSAKA: Southern Africa's frontline states will hold a summit meeting here today to discuss the latest moves aimed at bringing peace to Angola, Zambian officials said.

Speaker refuses snap debate

Botha under attack for quashing trial

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A big row has broken out here over the decision by President Botha to order the Attorney-General of Namibia to withdraw murder charges against six members of the South African Defence Force and South West African Territory Force.

The men were due to go on trial in the Supreme Court in Windhoek, the Namibian capital.

The Speaker of the white House of Assembly in Cape Town refused yesterday to grant a snap debate on the matter, but a spokesman for the liberal Progressive Federal Party, one of the two main opposition parties in the House, said the matter would not be allowed to rest there.

"We cannot talk about the sanctity of the courts and about the excellence of our judicial system if we prevent the law from taking its course, as would appear to have happened in this case," said

Mr Nic Olivier, the party's spokesman on defence.

The timing of Mr Botha's intervention is seen here as astonishing. Only last week he refused to grant clemency to the Sharpeville Six — sentenced to death for their part in the mob murder of a black township official — on the grounds that he could not interfere in the due process of law.

The accused in the Windhoek case are four white soldiers, Colonel Willem Welgemoed, Commandant Antonie Botes and Lieutenant Nicolaas Prinsloo, and two black soldiers, Corporal Eusebius Kashimbi and Rifleman Steven Festus.

The state's case against them is that they arranged for some 50 members of 101 Battalion, stationed at Ondangwa in northern Namibia, to attend a political meeting of

the South West African People's Organization (Swapo) in the Katutura township outside Windhoek on November 30, 1986.

The 50 troops, according to the state's indictment, were ordered to dress in civilian clothes, to arm themselves with clubs, knives, spears and bows and arrows, and "to disrupt the (Swapo) meeting and assault those present".

Fighting broke out soon after the meeting began and Mr Immanuel Shifidi, a veteran Swapo member, was stabbed to death.

In intervening to prevent the trial from going ahead, Mr Botha cited a clause in the Defence Act which exempts members of the security forces from prosecution if they act "in good faith" to combat terrorism.

Lawyers for the family of Mr Shifidi said yesterday that they intended to apply to the courts to get Mr Botha's intervention declared unlawful. The lawyers will argue that, on the basis of the state's case against them, the accused could not reasonably be said to have acted "in good faith" or to have been combating terrorism.

● Apology to Bonn: Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, yesterday apologized to the Bonn Government after seven plain-clothes policemen searched the Johannesburg home of West Germany's acting Consul-General, Herr Erhard Loeser, last Monday.

The police had apparently been following up an incorrect tip-off that a suspected ANC member, Mr Heinrich Grosskopf, whom they are seeking in connection with several car bombings, was in the house.

Locusts pose fresh menace to Africa

Nairobi (Reuter) — Huge swarms of locusts are sweeping North and West Africa in the worst plague of the pests for 30 years, and threaten to spread south of the Sahara.

The invasion is "dangerous and could become alarming", a spokesman for the UN Food and Agriculture Organization said in Rabat last week.

Swarms 20 miles long and up to three miles wide have been seen in northern Mauritania, the Western Sahara and southern Algeria, the organization said.

Big swarms also threaten Morocco, Tunisia and Libya. El Hadj Ousman Tall, Mali's Natural Resources Minister, said that parts of his country, Chad and Mauritania were so badly infested that they faced famine.

West African experts at a meeting in Bamako, capital of Mali, last week, said Niger was also affected.

They said the swarms could move south, posing a new menace to crops in sub-Saharan Africa, already ravaged

by drought which has left millions of people hungry.

"Abnormally large" numbers of locusts have been detected as far south as Zimbabwe, where they have damaged maize, millet and sorghum 25 miles inside the north-eastern border with Mozambique, according to Mr Shadrack Mlambo, head of the Plant Protection Research Institute.

He said another unusually large group found in south-east Zimbabwe on lowland

sugar estates, was quickly controlled.

Densities of locusts, from small crop-dusters to Hercules C-130 transport planes, backed by hundreds of vehicles, have mounted a blitz against the menace.

The EEC, Saudi Arabia and the United States, with additional help from France, Italy, Portugal and Spain, have joined the campaign, co-ordinated by the FAO.

They have sent planes, helicopters and pesticides to fight

swarms which, a spokesman at a campaign headquarters in Rabat said, were being attacked along an arc running from the Mediterranean coast to the Atlantic.

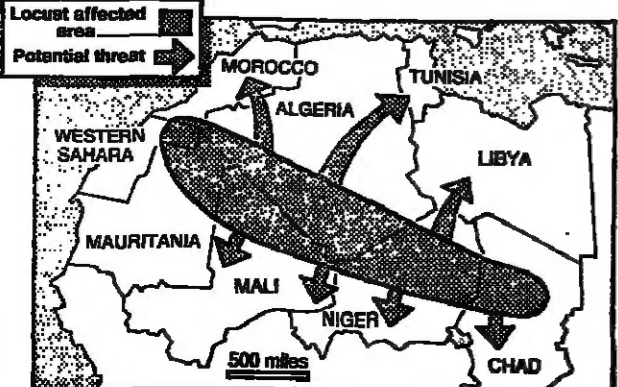
Warm and wet weather in recent months has encouraged the breeding of a second generation of locusts in North Africa since the first waves arrived last October.

A serious threat is posed to cereals, which are to be harvested in only two months.

Huge swarms moving north from the western Sahel region have ravaged some small oases, and efforts are being made to destroy them before they reach North Africa's fertile plains.

More than 1.2 million acres have been treated in Morocco alone in the last five months.

The war has claimed casualties on both sides. At least 24 people were reported poisoned by insecticide last week in Tunisia, where desert folk consider grilled locusts a delicacy.





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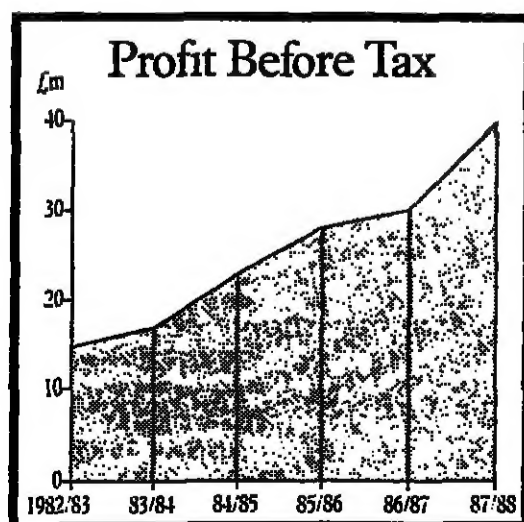
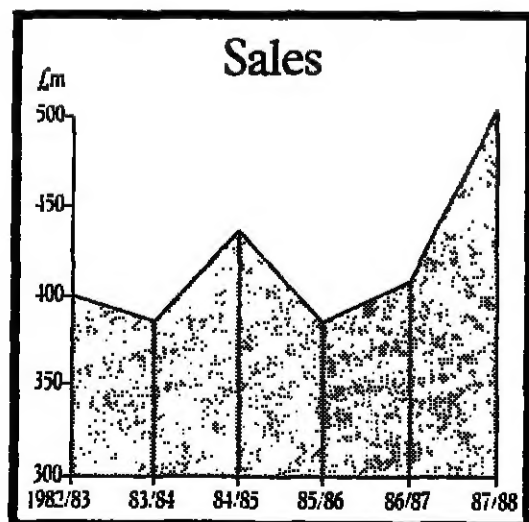
1987/88 RESULTS: RECORD PROFITS

	1987/88 £'000	1986/87 £'000
Sales	503,802	408,427
Profit Before Tax	40,290	30,219
Earnings Per Ordinary Share	11.3p	10.4p
Dividends Per Ordinary Share	4.5p	4.25p

Since the early 1980s, Tootal has been transformed from a commodity textile producer to a group which generates growth by seeking out and exploiting markets where it can bring together its marketing, sourcing and distribution skills. This successful transformation is reflected in profit growth to £40.3 million in 1987/88 from £30.2 million in 1986/87.

The acquisitions of Standard-Coosa-Thatcher and Sandhurst Marketing in 1986 and the thread joint venture in China in 1987 demonstrate our strategy in action. The Group is now market leader for industrial thread in the USA and the integration of Standard-Coosa-Thatcher has transformed the profitability and returns of The American Thread Company. Sandhurst Marketing has shown strong growth and improved market penetration, particularly in stationery distribution, in its first year under our ownership. Following the success of the first joint venture in China a similar venture in thread yarn manufacture is announced today.

This investment is based upon our strategy of gaining access to quality controlled and cost-competitive sources of yarn for use in the Far East and elsewhere. Plans are well advanced for market entry into a number of countries with rapidly growing apparel industries where Tootal does not currently distribute thread.



The Directors propose to raise approximately £54.2 million after expenses by way of a rights issue. Of this amount approximately £16.7 million will be used to purchase the 49.9%

interest in our Specialised Materials' joint venture, Lantor International. Tootal has managed Lantor since it was established in 1956; the acquisition reflects the Board's confidence in Lantor's excellent potential for profitable growth. This will come through the development of existing products and markets, by the continued expansion into new markets and from the introduction of new products.

The balance has been designated for strategic investment across a number of business areas. As the reduction in gearing from 44% to 36% in 1987/88 clearly demonstrates, the existing organic investment requirements of the Group can be internally funded. Each business area in the Group has developed clear plans for growth which are at varying stages of implementation, and the rights issue will provide the Group with the resources for timely acquisitions, new product investments and expansion into new geographic markets.

Now is the time for Tootal Group to build on success by adding to our strengths.

John Craven

John Craven
Chairman
23 March 1988



If you would like to know more about Tootal Group, write to: Audrey Lloyd-Küchen, Director of Corporate Affairs, Tootal Group plc, Tootal House, 19/21 Spring Gardens, Manchester M60 2TL.

These results are extracted from the full Tootal Group accounts for the year ended 31 January 1988 which we are advised by our auditors will carry an unqualified audit report.

Borde
for K

Refugee
and hasil

Ugandan
rebels to
join Army

March 1988

Spy arrest

Death verdict

Students strike

Orwell series

Minister freed

Ford bombed

Shrine bombed

The Afghanistan conflict

Border issue still a hurdle for Kabul-Pakistan pact

From Michael Hamlyn, Geneva

The four instruments which make up the agreement being painfully hammered out here between Pakistan and Afghanistan are now virtually complete, according to Señor Diego Cordovez, the United Nations mediator.

Yesterday Señor Cordovez indicated that only one issue remained outstanding in the four instruments, that of the border between the two countries.

He said that yesterday was occupied by lawyers going through the English text and also the official translations of the agreement to see whether any further points arose.

The instruments cover, first, the issue of non-interference and non-intervention in Afghanistan, secondly arrangements for the return of the refugees, thirdly an arrangement for the accord to be guaranteed by the two superpowers, and lastly a document which governs the

relations between the other three, but which also covers the timetable for the Russian troop withdrawal.

A fifth document, a memorandum governing the establishment of a United Nations monitoring force to police the peace agreement, has also been completed.

There were no formal meetings yesterday at the Palais des Nations between Señor Cordovez, the special representative of the UN Secretary-General, and the heads of delegation. But they will probably be called to this former headquarters of the old League of Nations after the lawyers have finished their fine-toothed combing.

United Nations officials are keeping their fingers crossed that the border question will disappear as suddenly as it arose, if there is a break in the current log-jam in the two main outstanding issues—the question of symmetry be-

tween Russian supplies to the Afghan regime and American supplies to the Mujahidin, and steps towards the establishment of an interim government to take over as the Russians withdraw.

The instruments refer to the "internationally recognized border" between the two countries, which is a formula taken to refer to the so-called Durand line, which divides the tribal areas of the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan from Afghanistan.

No Afghan government has ever recognized this line as the legal boundary, insisting that when it was drawn by Sir Mortimer Durand in 1893 it was done without their consultation. When it was endorsed by a referendum among the tribes at the time of the creation of Pakistan in 1947, Afghanistan claimed that their approval had been bought by economic force—that is, a subsidy given both by

British India and Pakistan to the tribes. The option of joining Afghanistan was never put to the tribesmen, they said.

Some officials here play down to some extent the importance of what happens in Washington between Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, and Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, saying that the question of symmetry is an important question for American politics, and that the Russians may or may not help them, but at the same time it is clear that everyone here is waiting for the outcome of the Washington meeting to know which way the Geneva negotiations will finish.

If there is agreement on symmetry, the pressure on Pakistan to abandon its stand on the interim government for a form of words which could mean anything will become overwhelming.

Refugee soldier tells of poor morale and hashish smoking in Soviet forces

From Edward Gorman, Peshawar

Alexei Vitalyich Gurnaltsov, wearing Afghan dress and turban, sits in a simple mud-house in a refugee camp enjoying a rare American-made cigarette.

On the small television in the corner, President Zia has been saluting almost continually for two hours at the massed ranks of the Pakistan armed forces. Mr Gurnaltsov remarks that it reminds him of parades in Moscow's Red Square which he used to watch on television at home in Uralak, in Soviet Kazakhstan.

Mr Gurnaltsov, a former artillery sergeant, aged 19, is one of an estimated 300 Soviet soldiers being held in Pakistan and Afghanistan who will not be returning home with the Red Army when it leaves Afghanistan. He was captured by Mujahidin guerrillas six months ago, after an ambush during which he was wounded near Kanduz in northern Afghanistan. Today, appar-

ently a devout Muslim, he is being held at a secret location near Peshawar by the Harakat-i-Islami faction of the resistance, his future undecided.

Mr Gurnaltsov provides a rare inside account of a Red Army facing defeat in its first full-scale conflict, since the Second World War.

Speaking through an Af-

ghan interpreter, he said that when he joined his unit in Afghanistan a year ago, morale was at a low and hashish smoking (cannabis resin) was an accepted practice. A withdrawal was regarded as inevitable.

"Whether we wanted to or not, we had to do what we were told. But many of the soldiers, in their heart of

hearts, did not want to fight though they could never show their feelings publicly. I am not saying whether we are defeated or winning this war, but Afghanistan will be a bad memory for the Russians."

He said that in daily lectures he and his fellow conscripts had been told that they were fighting an illiterate and uncivilised people and that the Russians had come to "remove" their religion. The Army had been invited into Afghanistan to help Afghan Communists and to honour agreements signed with Afghanistan by Lenin. "We learned a lot about Afghanistan in books, poems and films."

The Soviet Union has not disclosed its casualties in Afghanistan. Western estimates range from 12,000 to 25,000.

Mr Gurnaltsov said he saw many bodies on their way back to the Soviet Union.

Mr Mahboub ul-Haq, left, leader of Pakistan's delegation to the Islamic Conference Organization meeting in Amman, blaming Moscow for the deadlock in reaching a peace agreement in Afghanistan.



Iran accused the conference of failing to help Afghan and Palestinian peoples' freedom. "I regret to say the ICO has left nuclear fingerprints on the road towards ending the Afghan issue," its representative, Sheikh Muhammad Ali al-Tashkiri, said.

Ugandan rebels to join Army

Kampala (AP) — A leading rebel group, the Uganda People's Democratic Army, appears ready to sign a peace agreement and merge with government forces.

The National Resistance Army and the rebels, mainly soldiers from Uganda's previous national army, have observed a ceasefire since peace talks began in Gulu last week.

"We are coming out fully to join the Government," Mr Mike Kijana, the rebels' chief negotiator, said.

Match halted

Rotterdam (Reuters) — A bomb dropped by British planes during the Second World War has forced Saturday's First Division football match between Feyenoord and Utrecht to be called off. Thousands of people will be evacuated while the 1,000 lb bomb is defused.

Spy arrests

Helsinki (Reuters) — Two people have been arrested on suspicion of spying. Police refused to confirm that they were selling high technology to the Soviet Union.

Death verdicts

Ankara (AFP) — Nine members of a banned Maoist group have been sentenced to death for murdering 29 people, including the former Prime Minister, Nihat Erim.

Students shot

Dhaka — Three people were killed and more than a hundred were injured in Vailuka when police opened fire after students refused to stop cheating during an examination.

Orwell serial

Moscow (Reuters) — Rodnik, a Latvian literary journal, has published the first of four instalments of George Orwell's satire of Stalin's totalitarianism, *Animal Farm*.

Minister freed

Kampala (Reuters) — Three people were sentenced to death for treason. Four others, including the former Commerce Minister, Mr Evaristo Nyanzi, were acquitted.

Ford bombed

Vitoria (Reuters) — A bomb damaged a Ford car showroom in Spain's Basque capital. Police believe it may have been planted by Eta guerrillas.

Shrine battle

Rangoon (Reuters) — Five pilgrims and a soldier died as Burmese troops fought 150 Karen tribal insurgents at a Buddhist shrine in Mon state.

Nancy Reagan's night at the 'Opera'



Mrs Nancy Reagan, right, meeting members of the cast of the Broadway production of *The Phantom of the Opera*. The American First Lady took the opportunity of a backstage chat after seeing the successful show this week.

German tax reforms row

Kohl threat averts crisis

From John England, Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany threatened to resign last Tuesday if his Cabinet would not give immediate approval to a controversial tax reform package, according to West German newspaper reports yesterday.

The respected *Frankfurter Allgemeine* said the centre-right coalition almost collapsed over the reform Bill shortly before a Cabinet meeting when Herr Kohl's Bavarian Christian Social Union (CSU) partners demanded four changes in the reforms.

The liberal Free Democrats (FDP) then said they would not approve the Bill if the CSU had its way. At that, the paper said, an angry Herr Kohl threatened to go to the President and tell him: "The matter is at an end."

That was understood clearly to mean the end of the coalition and the Government, the paper added. For

good measure, Herr Kohl said he was "fed up" and would not let himself be made an *Affe* (monkey) of. "The Bill must be passed now," he said.

The popular newspaper *Bild* said Herr Kohl had banged his fist on the Cabinet table and told the ministers: "If things go on like this, you can look for someone else. Then I will go to the President." Participants told the *Frankfurter* newspaper that the episode was the "most explosive" they had ever experienced. Herr Kohl's threat was taken seriously and the Bill was approved.

But press comment yesterday said his burst of anger showed how tense relations in the coalition had become. Its discord went much deeper than had been assumed.

A threat to resign was a Chancellor's ultimate weapon, and one that he could seldom use, one commentator said. It became blunt quickly.

The tax reform package of Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the Finance Minister, which is due to take effect from 1990, will give taxpayers and businesses reliefs totalling £6.8 billion. But subsidies and allowances worth £6.1 million will be abolished.

Herr Stoltenberg says the reforms will help boost the economy, and the business-oriented Free Democrats support them. But Herr Franz Josef Strauss, Prime Minister of Bavaria and leader of the CSU, the sister-party of Herr Kohl's Christian Democrats, wants some fine-tuning.

Herr Strauss, however, has been making life difficult for Herr Kohl for many years, and the CSU-FDP spat over the tax Bill almost proved to be the straw that broke the Chancellor's back. The *Frankfurter Allgemeine* said there was suspicion that Munich kept laying explosives in the

chambers of the Bonn coalition.

The paper also asked: "But what are the possibilities if the coalition should break up? One could only conclude that it was striving for a Grand Coalition of conservatives and Social Democrats (as in 1966-1969)."

Herr Strauss, the paper added, might have fond memories of that alliance (when he was Finance Minister), but most of his party friends agreed later that the "experiment" was more harmful than helpful.

Herr Gerold Tandler, the CSU Secretary-General, said in Munich yesterday that his party's request for changes in the tax reform Bill had not made Herr Kohl threaten to resign. The CSU line had been fully accepted in both the coalition and the Cabinet.

Socialists ahead in election test of Gibraltar airport deal

Rock's sovereignty key to poll

From Richard Wigg, Gibraltar

Mr Joe Bossano, the challenger in today's Gibraltar general election, is not an old fashioned, internationally-minded socialist. Pragmatically, but loudly, he is beating the drum of a growing Gibraltar nationalism.

Last December's agreement between Britain and Spain on joint use of Gibraltar airport has proved the emotional force behind the election campaign. All three parties have turned the contest into a referendum on the 1984 Brussels agreement which under-

imposed as a consequence of the Brussels Agreement. Mr Bossano told *The Times*.

The trade unionist, aged 48, described the Anglo-Spanish airport deal as an awful thing for Gibraltar, claiming that it gave 90 per cent of what Spain gave demanded on the issue of sovereignty. He pledged that a Labour government would never commit Gibraltar to a deal with Spain "unless there is overwhelming public support for it".

Mr Bossano insisted that Gibraltar should itself develop the airport, to help tourism and the business community on the Rock "and make this obvious to the Spanish side".

He rejected the outgoing Government's suggestion that Spain could create difficulties for a Labour government at the frontier, hitting Gibraltar's economy. "If we have a particular policy which is clearly in tune with popular feeling in Gibraltar, they will see that they have to learn to live with it," Mr Bossano said.

He claimed that the Brussels agreement and recent British diplomacy towards Gibraltar amounted to "a dangerous philosophy". They had raised expectations, and Spain would see it as a slap in the face when those expectations did not materialize.

His party's election manifesto declares: "We are the true owners of the Rock — the

sovereignty of our homeland is not a matter to be negotiated between the UK and Spain."

Mr Bossano, a fourth-generation Gibraltarian whose family originated in Genoa, emphasizes that a Labour government would mean a fairer share for all Gibraltarians of the prosperity brought by relaxation of the frontier with Spain in 1985.

He has been holding talks with Gibraltar's business and financial communities in an effort to reassure them that a Labour government would understand Gibraltar's dependence on trade. If he wins, he is scheduled to go to the United States in September to seek investment.

Labour's programme envisages a Gibraltar national bank

and an economic development council. But Mr Bossano denies this would mean central planning with government controls on nationalization.

"When we talk about planning we mean announcing a rate of growth of the economy, which is done by Mrs Thatcher or Felipe Gonzalez in Spain," he says.

Of a national bank — Gibraltar already has 19 banks, four of them Spanish — Mr Bossano observed: "It is a profitable business and we do not see why Gibraltar should not share in profitable businesses."

● MADRID: Herri Batasuna, the political arm of the Basque terrorist organization Eta, has launched a diplomatic offensive to support Eta's recent truce offer, by sending delegations to present its views to ambassadors in Madrid (Harry Debelius writes). The British Embassy was not one of those visited.

The pro-Eta coalition issued a communiqué in Bilbao yesterday, claiming that the diplomatic offensive was not directly related to the truce offer, but rather formed a part of an international campaign announced last year.

The Madrid daily *El País* said the embassies visited included those of Denmark, Norway, The Netherlands and Finland.



Mr Joe Bossano: Riding a wave of nationalism.

Canepa spells out risks of ending Brussels agreement

From Our Own Correspondent, Gibraltar

Mr Adolfo Canepa, battling to remain Gibraltar's Chief Minister in today's general election, warned voters in a final appeal that to reject the Brussels agreement risked both the "special relationship" with Britain and a dangerous confrontation with Spain.

In the face of opinion polls suggesting a clear victory for Mr Joe Bossano — who promises that his Socialist Labour Party would boycott talks about the future of the Rock under the 1984 Anglo-Spanish agreement — relations with Britain and Spain could be the crucial factor.

The more than 17,000 Gibraltarian voters are electing a new 15-member House of Assembly.

Mr Canepa, a former schoolmaster, aged 47, who only took over from Sir Joshua Hassan in December, told *The Times* yesterday: "We must remain on our guard. Spain does have a sovereignty claim which we know is not going to go away. If the methods used in the past are not successful then they may well use different methods. Essentially, we want to retain British sovereignty and not have autonomy under Spain."

The Gibraltarians fear frontier restrictions by Spain if

relations deteriorate, which would damage a prosperous economy.

In a televised debate with Mr Bossano, who said categorically that any future talks between Britain and Spain "will not involve us", Mr Canepa emphasized that abandoning the Brussels process "would break a framework which is working well with Britain and leading to a better relationship with Spain."

He added: "If we adopt what is perceived in London as an unreasonable stand, we would alienate the British Government, cause serious problems in the House of Commons, and British public opinion will say 'These Gibraltarians are giving us too much trouble, what on earth do they want?'"

As Gibraltar's former trade union leader, Mr Bossano's weakness is in foreign affairs. Mr Canepa denied that it would be possible, as Mr Bossano maintains, to have good relations with the Campo de Gibraltar region of Andalusia which is working well with the rebel Contreras entered their final day yesterday.

Participants say the outcome of these high-level talks will determine if a negotiated peace is possible or whether the six-year-old American-backed war will continue.

The two sides have presented strikingly similar peace proposals and the Sandinistas have made several new concessions.

Earlier this week the Contra leader, Señor Adolfo Calero, said: "Today was very useful and tomorrow could be even better."

The Nicaraguan Defence Minister, General Humberto Ortega, who is head of the Government delegation, echoed these views.

Despite signs of progress, the Nicaraguan Government remains uncertain whether, with the Reagan Administra-

tion proposing new Contra aid, the resistance leaders genuinely want to end the war.

In their proposals both sides call for a temporary halt to the fighting. Both also outline steps to be taken during this period to the reintegration of rebel forces to civilian life.

The Contras and Sandinistas both propose that the rebels be permitted to keep their arms but the Government calls for their gradual disarmament while the Contras say the process should not begin until after 45 days. Both sides propose freeing all political prisoners.

● MADRID: The Spanish Prime Minister, Señor Felipe González, dropped Nicaragua from the itinerary of a visit this weekend to Central America, because the US Government considered that it would constitute "an unfriendly gesture" at this time, according to the Madrid daily *El País* (Harry Debelius writes).

Kiev moonshining boom drains sugar supplies

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The authorities in Kiev, the third largest Soviet city, are considering introducing sugar rationing, as a result of chronic shortages caused by moonshiners using it to make *samogon*, a fiery home-distilled vodka substitute.

A recent edition of the daily *Pravda* Ukraine revealed that the situation in the Ukrainian capital and surrounding areas had become so serious that the uniformed militia had been called out to maintain public order after "scores of people" were injured in fights over sugar in Kiev stores.

The paper said people were buying sugar in such large amounts that it was impossible to match demand. It added that the request for sugar rationing had been submitted by "various collectives and individuals" and was being considered by the regional Government.

The growing crisis over the availability of sugar (which is essential for the production of

samogon) was also highlighted in the weekly magazine *Ogonyok*, which printed a round robin letter from 87 Communist Party members complaining that, since January, all residents in the town of Grozny in the Northern Caucasus had been rationed to 1.5 kilos (3.3lb) of sugar a month.

Since Mr Mikhail Gorbachev launched severe restrictions on the availability of vodka in May 1985, home distilling has become an increasing problem for the Kremlin, which recently lifted some restrictions on the availability of wine, brandy and beer in Moscow, in an attempt to contain the growing demand for black-market *samogon*.

Figures released by the Ministry of the Interior showed that about 1.4 million tons of sugar were used for home distilling in 1987, an amount equivalent to the annual consumption of sugar by the whole Ukrainian republic with its population of 50 million.

The numbers arrested by the police for home distilling offences have jumped dramatically from 80,000 in 1985 to 397,000 last year. The Ministry spokesman said that this figure was likely to double again in 1988 as 120,000 illegal moonshiners had already been convicted in the first two months of the year.

The manufacture of *samogon*, which was traditionally restricted mainly to rural areas, has moved into the city

Gorbachev incentives

Moscow — Mr Mikhail Gorbachev acknowledged yesterday that his reform programme had run into more difficulties during his first three years in office than he had expected, but claimed it had now succeeded in reversing "the pre-crisis trends" in Soviet society (Christopher Walker writes).

Addressing the first congress of Soviet collective farmers for almost 20 years, Mr Gorbachev laid great stress on the need to set up new co-

operatives in all spheres of the economy, a method of providing incentives which has run into strong resistance from his bureaucratic enemies.

"We should revive co-ops, not in their old, often too primitive forms, but in the form of a modern, high-standard movement extensively integrated both within its own framework and with government-run enterprises and organizations," he told the delegates, who will discuss a new draft law on co-operatives.

ers were women and that 7,000 of those arrested in 1987 were members of either the Communist Party or its youth wing, the Komsomol.

Izvestia, the Government paper, said that the initial impetus of the anti-alcohol drive was now slackening and that in nine of the Soviet Union's 15 constituent republics and in 24 districts of the largest, the Russian Federation, the number of murders and robberies being carried out under the influence of alcohol was once again on the increase after showing a decline.

"In many republics, territories and regions, every second crime was committed under the influence of alcohol," *Izvestia* reported. "Alcoholism is being strongly combated in terms of production and consumption in public places."

"The administrative and prohibitive measures which had produced positive results at the initial stage (of the campaign), do not produce that effect any more."

Notes of optimism in Nicaragua peace talks

From Martha Honey, Sapo, Nicaragua

In an atmosphere of optimism, talks between the Nicaraguan Government and the rebel Contreras entered their final day yesterday.

Participants say the outcome of these high-level talks will determine if a negotiated peace is possible or whether the six-year-old American-backed war will continue.

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Despite signs of progress, the Nicaraguan Government remains uncertain whether, with the Reagan Administra-

Smoking at work. Are you scared to open your mouth?

If you're a non-smoker who works with smokers, you probably suffer in silence.

Yet everybody has the right to a healthy working environment.

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Breathing other people's cigarette smoke (passive smoking) is now a proven health hazard.

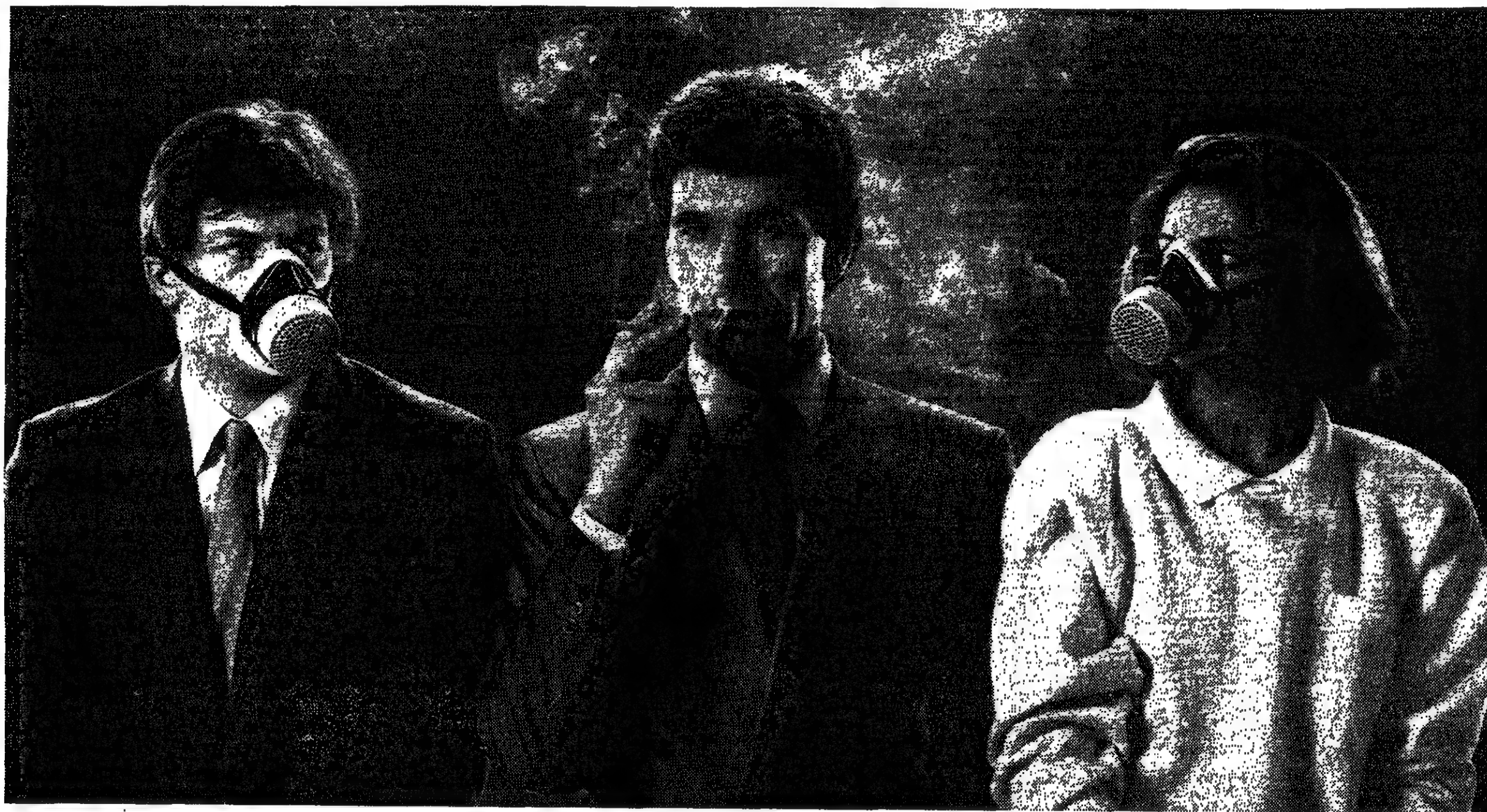
In recent years, many companies have successfully established a smoking policy at work.

Their experiences are well worth reading.

The Health Education Authority has published a booklet called "Smoking Policies at Work."

As well as outlining several case histories, it sets out ways and means of tackling the problem.

How to prepare for action.



In the short term it can cause headaches, nausea, stinging eyes and sore throats.

The long term effects are even more disturbing.

Yesterday's report by the Independent Scientific Committee on Smoking and Health has confirmed that passive smoking increases the risk of lung cancer by 10-30%.

Despite such evidence, many employers are still reluctant to introduce smoking restrictions at work.

Ironically, they think it would create an even worse atmosphere than the smoke itself.

Recent research suggests otherwise.

An NOP survey* carried out last year shows that 8 out of 10 smokers agree with the statement: "In general, people who don't smoke should have the right to work in air free of tobacco smoke."

Clearly, potential conflict between smokers and non-smokers is over-estimated.

How to arrive at the best policy for your own workplace.

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The booklet, which costs £5, can be obtained via the coupon below.

Please urge your employer to send for a copy, or failing that, send for one yourself.

Smoking at work has never been such a burning issue.

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SPECTRUM

The latest outrages in Northern Ireland have drawn out an implacable enemy of the IRA: the Catholic bishop of Belfast

Calming the troubled see

Cahal Daly moved with agitated, rather bird-like vigour around his imposing private library yesterday. His activity was an apt correlation to his mental state. Dr Daly is the Bishop of Down and Connor, the ancient Roman Catholic see which now encompasses modern Belfast and the elemental turmoil that now exists at its heart.

The extensive library ranges from the works of the logical positivists to the devotional tracts of the religious mystics; from histories of both Christianity and the Irish nation to epistemology and metaphysics. Outside the room representatives of the world's media were waiting their turn in its cloistered atmosphere.

Daly's study has long been the intellectual powerhouse of the Irish Catholic hierarchy. It is he who has drafted nearly all its main policy statements on subjects as wide-ranging as international communism and the Church's need for a new option for the poor. It was he who wrote the Catholic bishops' unequivocal denunciation of the IRA after last November's Enniskillen bombing.

But most of this was done from a comparatively calm anonymity. He has now been thrust into the public spotlight because of a withering attack on the IRA which he published on Tuesday. It was accorded particular significance because it came from the cleric who is generally regarded as the single most important influence in persuading the Royal Ulster Constabulary to adopt the policy of "low-key policing" at Irish Nationalist funerals.

Yesterday he was unapologetic. Low-key policing had not been

THE TIMES PROFILE

CAHAL DALY

responsible for the violence, he said. "Had there been a heavy police presence, there would still have been violence and it probably would have started earlier, given the tensions surrounding the burial of those shot at Gibraltar."

"Massive security and saturation presence of police and soldiers in riot gear at a funeral is seen to be provocative. Where tensions are high the instinct of the people is to engage in confrontation. Saturation policing plays right into the hands of the IRA. There is nothing more productive in propaganda terms for the IRA than television pictures of baton charges by police on mourners. This has a particularly vivid impact in the United States."

For Bishop Daly, at the age of 71, suddenly to find himself besieged by the international media is an unfamiliar and evidently unwelcome experience. He was ordained in 1941 and spent the first 25 years of his priesthood as an academic. He was for many years lecturer in scholastic philosophy at Queens University, Belfast, before being consecrated Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise in the midlands of the Irish Republic. From this rural bishopric he masterminded Ireland's implementation of the revolutionary theological perspectives of the Second Vatican Council.

His major previous encounter with politics was when he was passed over for the cardinal's hat and the position of Primate of All Ireland, which many expected he would get before the conservative Fianna Fail came to power in the South and influenced the Vatican to appoint the more pro-republican Tomas O'Fiaich.

But returning to Belfast in 1982 to his present job has brought him face to face with both the inescapably brutalizing nature of social, economic and environmental deprivation of the Catholic ghettos of the city, and the horror of the violence bred there.

A priest here is almost every day confronted with the anguished reality of families who have fallen victim to the beatings and murders. But for all that, Daly believes that the events of the last week, and in particular the murderous battering of the two British soldiers, have had an unprecedented effect.

The atrocity, he says, "has had an impact in the Catholic community which no event I can recall has had before. People saw it happening on television, at a funeral, and in the midst of a Catholic community."

"There is a sense of shame and foreboding in the community. People are asking: 'How did we not know that this evil thing was in our midst?' Priests have told me that there was an extraordinary hush among congregations at Mass on Sunday which they have never experienced before. I myself have rarely felt so overcome as by this sickening violence. But we must not yield to depression. I do



believe this can be a turning point."

For this to happen, new efforts he believes are required by all parties. It is up to the Catholic community to squeeze the IRA out of existence. The British government must suit actions to its words by launching a major initiative to end the religious job discrimination and the economic stagnation that creates the alienation and despair on which the men of violence feed. Local

politicians must show new willingness to talk to one another.

The Irish and UK governments must cultivate better relations than they have in recent months. Westminster politicians must show more sensitivity to how their words and actions will be interpreted throughout Ireland. British newspapers must report the province more fairly and with fewer stereotypes.

The Army and police should

recognize that "their primary objective is to secure a respect for the law. Any departure from this, whatever short-term advantages it produces, will in the long term prove counter-productive."

Exactly how the Church can effectively move against the IRA is Daly's own problem. Protestant clerics in the province have insisted that the Church should excommunicate IRA activists and refuse them burial, but the bishop considers that this is a misunder-

BIOGRAPHY

1917: Born. Educated at St Malachy's, Belfast; Queen's University. Also at the Institut Catholique, Paris.
1941: Ordained.
1946: Lecturer in Scholastic Philosophy, Queen's University.
1962: Reader, Queen's University.
1967: Consecrated Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise.
1973: Author of *Violence in Ireland and Christian Conscience*.
1982: Appointed Bishop of Down and Connor.

standing of the nature of excommunication.

"It is not a punitive measure so much as a medicinal one. It should act as a spur to repentance. Obviously this is only effective if the individual involved is a committed Catholic. Very often this is not the case. My priests were not able to recognize, for example, a single individual in the television pictures (of the attack on the two soldiers) as regular churchgoers. Excommunication was tried in the 1920s and 1930s and it did not work. The IRA have developed very effective conditioning techniques to blind individuals to the moral significance of what they are doing."

The Church must instead exert pressure on the terrorists through the community in which they live. "Through our concern for the living conditions in the area, our involvement with local issues, our concern for human rights and human dignity, our care for the families of prisoners, we are trying to create a climate which is not conducive to violence. Gradually this will deprive the activists of the community sustenance on which they depend. The Church has found this the most effective strategy."

But it is up to the Government, the bishop believes, to provide the finance and the co-ordination to create the new atmosphere in which the Church's strategy will succeed. "We have to be able to show them that there is another way available, that there is hope."

Paul Vallely and John Cooney

The milking of the Warhol legend

All London is invited to Bond Street today to salivate over 73 samples from Andy Warhol's art collection. Nothing actually by him, you understand, not even the spare wig he had framed on the wall... but a clutch of wigs, watches, American furniture and folk art, with a masterpiece by Alma-Tadema and the *Head of Napoleon* by Canova thrown in. The whole lot is being conveyed to its prospective purchasers on a wave of Sotheby's superlatives: "Extraordinary in its diversity... concentration of quality."

These more portable objects will be sold along with the rest of the 5,500 items over 10 giddy days next month at the biggest auction Sotheby's New York has ever handled.

For sure, many of the items are of the finest quality but the prices they will fetch will be grossly inflated as the auction house milks the Warhol legend for all it's worth. Yet do the objects really have any special merit because of their association with Warhol, who died last year?

If Warhol's standing as an artist is contentious, then his merit as a collector is equally debatable. Indeed, he was never really a proper collector but rather a compulsive shopper. Few of the items actually brought Warhol any pleasure,

artfile



SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

A weekly look at the art world

remaining unwrapped in his Manhattan home when his spending lust was sated.

Nor does anyone seem to think it odd that the king of the mass produced should buy so many artefacts distinguished by their uniqueness.

When the dust settles on the sale, perspectives may change over his contribution to 20th century art. We may even start believing what he said of himself: "Just look at the surface of my paintings and films and me, and there I am. There's nothing behind it."

Warhol was a one idea man, and even the originality of that idea is epitomized in his most famous image, the Campbell Soup can of 1962: a sublime,

Next month Andy

Warhol's vast

collection goes up

for auction, no

doubt at inflated

prices. But is it the

work of a true

collector, or just an

obsessive shopper?

anarchic token whereby a humble mass-produced object was uplifted into both art and stardom while cocking a snook at the "serious" contemporary art of Abstract Expressionists like Jackson Pollock.

He repeated the idea *ad nauseam*. Specific subjects, such as his death and disaster series and his dollar bills, were suggested to him by friends or dealers. Often he was not even involved in the production bearing his name. As one hanger-on said: "Andy would walk along the rows and ask 'what colour do you think would be nice?'"

Warhol had Expo '67 in Montreal to thank for first stamping his work with



Regal Warhol: king of mass-production, but buyer with taste

credibility. From then on, whatever he did, the critics found words to justify it.

Paradoxically, the work that bears his truly personal touch, is perhaps the most hollow of all: his "Oxidization pictures" of 1978 are bland patterns created by urinating on bronze-coated canvases.

Here, as Carter Ratcliff, his biographer, said: "Warhol seems at last to express a clear attitude toward his art - utter contempt. Or is he contemptuous of himself? Of his audience? There is also the possibility that Warhol's Oxidization process is a vicious, infantile mockery of Jackson Pollock's paint splinging."

As the Sixties advanced, so did his ego. A repressive regime developed at The Factory, his studio, with the hippies and hangers-on trying to be trendy for the international films he made of them snogging or squabbling. A friend said: "Andy's very royal. It was like Louis XIV getting up in the morning. The big question was whom Andy would notice."

Despite the term Pop Art, Warhol never explained himself to the people. Instead, he

uttered rambling nihilistic statements like, "Kitchen (one of his films) is illogical, without motivation, or character, and completely ridiculous. It is very much like real life."

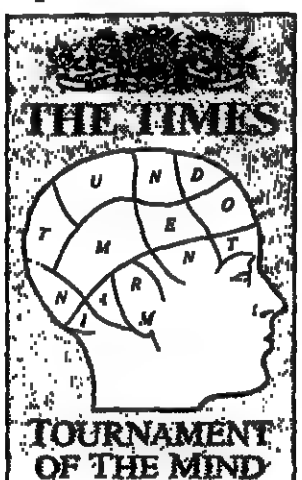
His friend John Richardson described him as "almost priestlike... untainted by the speed freaks, leather boys and drag queens whom he attracted", but others around him were cracking up. Two girls died of overdoses and in 1968 another, Valerie Solanas, shot him.

So the bubble burst. On recovery, he became isolated, lonely, obsessed with death. During the day he exercised in the gym; at night he slept with his dachshunds. Although he had started collecting contemporary art in the 1960s, the urge to shop now became obsessive. His purchases were, on the whole, in old-fashioned good taste, a sheer relief from his own art.

By the time he died his "collection" had clearly taken over: two stairwells were already piled high and he had withdrawn largely to the bedroom and kitchen. So, far from being considered the rare fruit of a serious collector, could it be that the collection is tainted?

Tournament of the Mind

● The second set of answers. Individual readers with the top 100 scores will be invited to join the finals, starting on April 11. Schools' finals will be played the following week.



Today, the second batch of answers to *The Times Tournament of the Mind* - and as the questions, set by Mensa, were by this stage growing harder, we explain (below) how the answers were arrived at. In Round Six, for example, competitors seeking a four-letter prefix which could be common to the four existing words listed ran into trouble with the fourth word, "shaw" - an archaic word for a corpse or small wood, or else the top of a potato plant. It required some

ingenuity to prefix that with the word "kick", to make "kickshaw", meaning trinket.

Ingenuity was still in evidence by Round Seven, when the majority of entrants realized that there was only one sure way to crack the cubes problem - the scissors and folding method.

There is no cause for complacency. By yesterday afternoon one-third of the entries had been assessed; only two were entirely correct. The judging continues.

ANSWERS: ROUNDS SIX TO TEN

ROUND 6

Puzzles: 1 Kitchen or dining room. (We will accept either answer.) 2 KICK. 3 53. (The tramp has 800 cigar ends, from which he makes 50 cigars to smoke. With the 50 ends left, he makes a further three cigars.) 4 K. (The letters inside the grid follow an alphabetical sequence with every other letter omitted, beginning with the letter A on the top row, followed by the C on the bottom row, followed by the E on the top row, then the G on the bottom row, then the I on the top row, hence the K.)

General Knowledge: 1 Athena. 2 Jackal. 3 New Zealand. 4 Braurum Inn. 5 Silver.

ROUND 7

Puzzles: 1 B and D. 2 Gaul. (When we unravel the groups of letters we discover the words: Gaul, Inca, Aztec and Maya; the obvious one out is Gaul, since the others lived in the South American Continent.) 3 99 divided by 9 plus 9. 4 John wins. (In this race John had covered 100 metres in the same time as it took Peter to cover 95 metres. The second time the race was run at exactly the same speed but this time Peter had to cover 100 metres while John covered 105 metres. We divide John's 105 by 100 to give us 1.05 and Peter's 100 by 95, which gives us 1.0526, and leaves John the winner again.)

General Knowledge: 1 York. 2 Dog. 3 Terracotta. 4 Sirius. 5 Handel.

ROUND 8

Puzzles: 1 10. 2 SOURCE and COURSE. 3 4 gallons per hour. (The car travels at 40 mph and covers 80 miles. It has therefore taken two hours to accomplish the journey. Since its fuel consumption is 40 miles to the gallon it ought to have used up two gallons of fuel. In fact the tank is empty and therefore an additional 8 gallons of fuel has been used in two hours. It is therefore leaking 4 gallons per hour.) 4 B = 5. (The numbers are related to the number of letters in the word. There are five letters in the word "three" and so on, so "eight" equals five.)

General Knowledge: 1 Samuel Beckett. 2 Staffordshire. 3 Milton Keynes. 4 Holy Loch. 5 Helios.

ROUND 9

Puzzles: 1 M. (The letters in the grid should read as follows: starting at the top horizontal and reading from left to right, the letters are: T,S,I,M,E; second line: M,E,T,S; third line: S,I,M,E,T; fourth line: E,T,S,I,M; fifth line: L,M,E,T,S.) 2 Five changes: Fast, Fast, Saut, Saut, Saut, Saut, Saut. (All words can be found in the large edition of Collins English Dictionary; other methods using the same number of changes were accepted.) 3 12. (There are three series interlaced here: 1,3,5,7 is the first series; 2,3,4,5 is the second; and 3,6,9,12 is the third; 12 is therefore the answer.) 4 24 minutes. (The simple solution to this puzzle is to convert the times into fractions. The first tap becomes one-eighth, the second one-quarter and the plug time becomes one-third. Add the tap times together and subtract the plug time. This gives you 1/24th, which you reconvert to give 24 minutes.)

General Knowledge: 1 The Republic of Ireland. 2 Tom Watson. (As indicated on March 4, Watson won the British Open five times between 1975 and 1987.) 3 Captain Kidd. 4 Richard II. 5 Wenceslas was murdered by his brother.

ROUND 10

Puzzles: 1 4. (Starting at the C and working up to the E we have the following: C,H,A,A,P,M,N,G,E. Then we have C,H,P,M,A,A,N,G,E twice. Finally we have: C,H,A,M,N,A,P,G,E.) 2 LYRES. (The grid must be filled in with the following words, starting from the top with PETAL, EVERY, TENOR, AROSE, LYRES.) 3 19. (The numbers in the left-hand side of the H follow a simple progression, as follows: 3,7,11,15,19 and 23. The other side of the H follows a similar rule: 9,11,13,15,17 and 19.) 4 49 1/2 miles. (On the first day the man covers 1/5 of the total distance. On the second he covers one half of the remaining 4/5, which gives us 2/5. On the third he covers one quarter of the remaining 3/5, or 3/20 of the remaining distance, and on the fourth day he covers 1/5 of the 2/5 which are left, thus giving 2/50. He is now 19 1/2 miles away from the first town. Thus we know that 2/50 is equal to 15 1/2 miles. Therefore he has covered 49 1/2 miles of a 65-mile journey.)

General Knowledge: 1 Sandie Shaw. 2 A life-jacket. 3 Vanity Fair. 4 Malta. 5 Coventry.



Susan is just like any other 10 year old...
but she lives under the shadow of diabetes.

1 person in every 100 in the UK lives under this shadow. Diabetes can cause blindness, kidney trouble, amputation, and other complications.

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THE SHADOW OF DIABETES

BRITISH DIABETIC ASSOCIATION

31 Queen Anne Street London W1M 0BD Telephone 07-223 1531

TIMES DIARY ANTHONY SMITH

While the glittering rave-up of the Bafta awards at the Grosvenor House was under way on Sunday night, corks popping, see-through Rolls-Royces queuing, terraced ranks of black-tie cameramen clicking, another major cinema award was being celebrated in Woking, where the New Cinema Club had just returned after gaining the trophy for Film Society of the Year.

I suppose the two awards represent the Yin and Yang of British moviedom. There is much that remains unsung about the role of the film society in Britain. Despite the rapid decline of these organizations in the era of home video, something of a comeback seems to be taking place. More than 300 of them remain in existence and new ones have started to spring up again in small towns where cinemas, let alone specialist art cinemas, have long disappeared.

But the societies can do far more for their patrons than any cinema: they provide a wide range of duplicated information, visiting lecturers, informative group trips and, I suppose most important of all, company while viewing. They represent a slice of still thriving local voluntarism. Tonight in Woking you can see Lewis Milestone's 1940 version of Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*, with Lon Chaney as the simple-minded giant. And on the same £17.50 subscription you can catch up also this season with a score of 1980s movies. There's talk of restarting a film society in the small country town where I live. Perhaps it's the backlash of the lonely home video generation.

I sighted David Puttnam walking along Piccadilly. He used to be a familiar figure trudging around the streets of Soho, from one meeting to another, pumping life into the wheezing body of the film industry. But he seems to have left his red scarf behind in Hollywood, home of the Columbia Film Company, of which he is no longer chairman and managing director. In fact it was difficult to recognize him without this garment, which he invariably wore even in midsummer, even with a dinner jacket, perhaps even with his pyjamas.

There was a period of at least two years when every aspiring film director seemed to be wearing an identical scarlet cashmere number. In the winter sales last year you could get brown and black and blue ones but the red ones had naturally sold out earlier at pre-sales prices. I bet you anything there will be a surplus of red scarves in Soho shops if Puttnam decides to change his neck gear.

I always make a point of avoiding reading books written by friends, especially close friends. How can you continue to fulfil the role if you're nursing a secret disappointment with something they have worked at for months or years? You can tell a lie once, but you can't go on for ever pretending you liked something which you didn't.

I broke my rule this week and read very slowly every word of Shusha Guppy's *The Blindfold Horse*, memoirs of a family and its life in pre-Khomeini Iran. I have now decided to abolish the rule altogether. It is a deeply moving book, evoking a whole civilization which was shaken to dust by the 1979 revolution; the politics go on, but far in the background, and the reader is treated to an account of the domestic life of a society which was slowly moving from traditional to Western ways, through the keyhole as it were of the *andaroon* (the women's quarters) and the *birooni* (the men's quarters) of a well-placed Iranian household.

It is hard to convey the smells and stray sounds of a whole civilization to the inhabitants of another, but that is the rare achievement of this little book. I put it down positively bathed in the values and attitudes which she describes, as if I had spent the time in a Persian *hammam*. One is not regaled with its exoticism. This faded world is made to feel quite ordinary.

BARRY FANTONI



"Turn off the Ulster report, we don't want to be accused of spying for the security services"

This week I watched a giant camera crane which has been gently wheeled up a ramp and into the newly emerging Museum of the Moving Image on the South Bank. It is a piece of vintage equipment and used to support many tons of Technicolor camera plus cameramen back in the 1930s and 1940s. There was much anguish as to whether it would get inside the museum, and if the floor would hold it. But now it sits there waiting like an absent-minded giraffe for the activity all round it to die away and leave it in peace.

In its day it provided thrilling shots in now defunct British studios for films like *The Dam Busters*. It can do a 360-degree turn. It can swoop and climb. But in recent years it has done service as a prop in movies about movies — a sad retirement for such a versatile beast. Soon it will perform its lofty arabesques again for the interest of the curious who come to learn how dramatic movie sequences are created.

It has only one fellow; none others ever saw service, in Britain at least. Its electric motor has gone, so have its cables. No longer will a small squad of men be needed to move it gently around the studio, as it rises up to track back from an extreme close-up to a whole street of houses, from one face to a whole marching army. Today's lightweight cameras have no need of it, and most of the cameramen who were hoisted high by it are long retired. It is the symbol of a distant era of popular movie-making.

The author is director of the British Film Institute and president-elect of Magdalen College, Oxford.

Nicholas Beeston finds Iranians turning to thoughts of peace

A war running out of zeal

hundreds of Iranian tricolours, unless it can account for those lives in a victory.

Talking to Iranians of all classes, it becomes clear that the enthusiasm for continuing the war is ebbing and that there is growing resentment at some of the more petty infringements imposed by the regime. But there still appears enough enthusiasm among young Iranians to fill the ranks of the Revolutionary Guards and volunteer forces, who bear the brunt of the frontline fighting. And there is a strong conviction, based on a united nationalism, that Iraq must pay some just retribution for having started the war.

Unconditional peace terms as proposed by the UN Security Council Resolution 598 are rejected outright both at government level and by the man in the street.

Iran has long demanded the removal of the Iraqi president,

Saddam Hussein, as a precondition to a peace settlement, although recently it has softened its position in the face of international pressure. It now insists that Iraq be labelled the "aggressor" in the war, and so pave the way for reparations for Iran.

How long the people's patience will endure a war with no end in sight is a question the leadership in Tehran must put to itself daily. In spite of gains last week on the northern front of Kurdistan, where Revolutionary Guards have penetrated about 30 miles into mountainous Iraqi territory, the much publicized victory has less value strategically than as a morale boost for the Iranian people.

Capture of the southern Iraqi city of Basra, which could have held the key to an Iranian victory, remains more elusive than ever, particularly since the disclosure of the US arms-for-

hostages deal has firmly put the US and the West generally on the side of Iraq and the Arab Gulf states.

Although Tehran is enjoying a brief respite from its image as the Middle East's foremost "pariah state" after the Iraqis' use of chemical weapons against Kurdish civilians last week, the Iranians delude themselves if they expect any significant switch of allegiance in their favour, regionally or internationally.

Grey hairs are now sprouting in the once youthful beards of the Islamic zealots, who established their reputation by challenging the superpower status quo and who recorded successes as far afield as Washington and Beirut. They now demand, half in genuine naivety and half in anguish, why they cannot make it up with the West. Their pride, bordering on arrogance, forbids them to climb down in spite of their affinity to

Western culture, particularly that of the United States, where many were students.

As the search for a way out of the predicament continues, Iran is being dragged deeper and deeper into economic and political chaos. Earlier this year Ayatollah Khomeini was forced to tinker with the constitution and form a new Council for the Expediency of State Decrees. This is meant to end the legislative impasse caused by the six-member Council for the Protection of the Constitution which vetoed essential parliamentary reforms with such regularity that the whole machinery of government was brought to a virtual standstill.

Khomeini, it is said, also wants more technocrats to be elected to parliament in next month's elections to speed up the pace of change.

"If it goes on like this we will end up like Bangladesh," said

one expatriate returning to Iran. Like many of the professional classes he supported the revolution but prospects at home offered him only the choice of military service or menial government employment.

The queues of passengers at Tehran airport, some waiting days for a flight out, speak for themselves. The government is spending every available dollar on the war effort, as a drive away from the front demonstrated. Commandeered buses carrying soldiers raced down the highway past civilian lorries loaded with military equipment, most of which Iran has to buy in cash at a premium. The result is rampant inflation, a flourishing black market in foreign exchange and a shortage of foreign goods, other than those smuggled in and sold at exorbitant prices.

This week, though, as they celebrate the Persian New Year, the thoughts of most Iranians have turned away from the war and their economic woes to their families. But when they return home from visiting relatives on Saturday they must again face the enormity of their crisis.

Their only hope is that the country's leadership has made its New Year's resolution to pull them back from the brink.

Bernard Levin

Extinct but it won't lie down

The experts are notoriously divided on the reason for the abrupt disappearance from the earth of the dinosaurs and their kind at the end of the Mesozoic era. Some attribute the catastrophe to giant meteorites, others to a rapid change in the earth's climate, still others to bursts of extra-terrestrial nuclear radiation. I dare say that Mr Geoffrey Cannon would explain it by the high level of fat and salt in their diet, and I am quite sure that Mr David Simpson would argue that they all popped off because they smoked, and serve them right. (Mr Jonathan Miller, I understand, blames it on Mrs Thatcher.)

I have no theory of my own to put forward, but I do want to draw attention to one element in the mystery. Everyone who takes part in the debate talks of the extraordinary and macabre rapidity of the creatures' disappearance, but if you examine the evidence (such as it is), you discover that whatever happened to them, it seems to have taken 750,000 years to finish the process.

Which leads me, naturally, to the TUC in general, and the Transport and General Workers' Union in particular. Everybody was getting excited about the other day about ballroom-rigging in the TGWU (as if there had ever been a TGWU election without it), but the result made no serious difference. Bombarded by meteorites and gamma-rays, faced by vast swings in temperature, the trade union movement lurches on, with Mr Ron Todd of the TGWU in the van, towards extinction, the longed-for nirvana 750,000 years away.

Yesterday, the TUC, in solemn convocation, tried to find a way to punish the EETPU for knowingly, deliberately and wilfully committing sensible behaviour, though even the thickest of them knew perfectly well that if the EETPU is even suspended, let alone expelled, Mr Hammond will lead his men into a world elsewhere — a world in which common sense and independence will join hands to



give the EETPU's men even more opportunities than they have now, freed at last of the lead-weighted albatross of the TUC. They know just as certainly that if Hammond's lot go, the AEU will follow (and after that the UDM and Mr Lyons' men), yet they strove all morning and most of lunchtime to find an infallible method of committing suicide, and when they failed, though only on a technicality, they announced that they would be returning to the search for a cast-iron form of self-ending in a few weeks' time.

And then it was Mr Ron Todd's turn. I own to a fascination with Mr Todd comparable to what would be my amazement if I looked out of the window and saw a herd of Megalosaurus trotting down the street; by all the laws of nature, he ought to be as extinct as they, yet there he is, alive and well (long may he remain so), the very pattern and exemplar of Cretaceous Man,

perfectly representative of the entire movement, or at least its leadership, prostrate across the path to the future like an oak felled by last year's hurricane, though in fact it fell many decades ago, and has now grown roots, running fully 30 feet deep, at both ends.

Even the TUC, by the end of the session, was running scared; they voted by 25 to 11 to let the AEU go ahead with the Ford deal, and their plenipotentiaries (it's a mercy they didn't send Mr Ken Gill, or even Mr Todd himself) will be arriving in Detroit more or less as you read these words. But Mr Todd stood firm for folly, strong for stupidity, implacable for idiocy, unwavering for unemployment; the Ford proposals were sinful, and he would have nothing to do with sinfulness. Surely it was to him that St Joan directed her words: "Thou art a rare noodle,

Master. Do what was done last time is they rule, eh?"

For Mr Todd bases his refusal to let Ford employ more men on the most sacred principle of trade union negotiation, a principle he enunciated in words of such fiery passion, such majesty and clarity, such wit and wisdom, that his eloquence must have brought tears to even the most cynical eye. "Ford," he said, "have violated the blue book agreement which established our collective machinery."

And stuff the unemployed, brothers, twice over. Yet Mr Todd would like nothing better than to help to reduce unemployment. Though not, in any circumstances, if it involves changes, however modest, to the attitudes, behaviour, habits, convictions, practices, structure, methods, customs, personnel, rules or language of trades unionism, which have stood unaltered since the TGWU de-

manded exclusive negotiation rights in the transport of the great sarsens of Stonehenge, and held up the work from 1800 to 1500BC because the Beaker Folk pointed out that it was their job, as well as the TGWU's, to bore the mortice holes in the lintels.

It is no use at all telling Mr Todd and those who think like him that it is 1988, that Mrs Thatcher has won three general elections in a row and will win another six at this rate, that Macmillan is dead and Wilson forgotten, that entire industries are springing up and operating without union negotiation rights and in some cases without unions, that the number of people in trade unions is now fewer than those who have bought shares in the privatization issues, that even Mr Kinnock has come to the conclusion that there is nothing wrong with working-class affluence, that, in short, no amount of calling Eric Hammond a bastard

will alter the fact that his members have benefits, conditions, facilities, opportunities and wages that are far better than a thousand years of Todd have managed to secure for his own members.

It is no use telling Mr Todd such truths, if only because he would at once move the reference back, demand a card vote, appeal to the Standing Orders Committee, claim across-the-board parity, denounce productivity agreements, reject the erosion of differentials, stick three more ball-point pens into his breast-pocket and insist that composite is a verb. What, then, are we to do about him — him and his like?

For he and his like are far more dangerous than any number of Scargills and Jarvises, men who shoot themselves in the foot and claim that it has cured their bunions. Todd and Co do not make such spectacular fools of themselves, indeed do not do anything spectacular at all, because it is not in their nature to do so. All they do is sit, as placid and immobile as Buddha, in the way of progress, and declare that they will not be moved. Nor will they, though their bottoms get cold and the planners build a by-pass round them and they forget what they are sitting there for and have to be reminded that it was because somebody had violated the blue book which established their collective machinery.

There is nothing to be done about them; history will roll over them as it rolled over the dinosaurs, and in aeons to come scholars will surely debate the extraordinary extinction of *Toddosaurus Rex* and similar weird creatures, and will wonder whether it was due to meteorites, climatic changes or radiation, never guessing that what did for them was a terrible epidemic of irrelevance, which so weakened them that when, shortly afterwards, they were attacked by their own members' aspirations, they succumbed at once. Or at least in 750,000 years.

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Commentary • RONALD BUTT

Balance of power

In the Sixties and Seventies it was an article of faith for intellectuals in the swim that everything wrong with Britain could be ascribed to faults in its "machinery of government". If only, it was said, we had a more expert Civil Service, or effective parliamentary investigative committees, or economic planning organizations, or a cabinet system of political advisers, then all would be well.

Much of this was tried, but political and economic decline continued until Mrs Thatcher seized the truth that the need was for political action rather than mechanical tinkering. By politics, she has so changed the way Britain thinks and behaves that even the Labour Party is having to try to change with it.

In the galaxy of myths about the institutions of government, however, there was one which, paradoxically, been given a certain credibility by Mrs Thatcher's political success. This is the idea that Cabinet government had been replaced by a kind of prime ministerial government which has virtually presidential through-control of the administrative and party machines.

The present prime minister does, indeed, enjoy a singular degree of personal authority. It comes, however, not from institutional mechanisms but from her political leadership and clarity of purpose in tackling the national crisis when too many in her then Cabinet had wished to temporize in the old useless way. Her fund of personal authority has generally been for the public good. But it has also had some disconcerting consequences. Everyone knows that she runs her Cabinet as a kind of nonsense boss. But we have

never seen her supremacist instincts quite so openly in operation as they were when, to the embarrassment of a strong and successful Chancellor on the eve of his Budget, she publicly opposed his known policy of reducing interest rates and intervening in the market to stabilize sterling at a lower exchange rate against the Deutschmark.

It is a complex economic argument and I am concerned here only with whether this kind of attempted pre-emptive strike is the right way to resolve it. Nigel Lawson has been trying to show that Britain can operate as though it were a member of the European Monetary System, which he wishes to join, without actually being a member, and he does not want economic growth and employment to be impeded by high interest rates. Mrs Thatcher, on the other hand, both opposes EMS membership and wishes to avoid any risk of inflation through easier money.

The proper course would be to refer such a fundamental question to the Cabinet's economic sub-committee. If that produced an agreed policy the matter would be settled. If not, it should be taken to the full Cabinet. A prime minister holds office because he or she can form a government acceptable to a parliamentary majority. Once appointed, each Cabinet minister is free (in the light of his party's public commitments) to shape his policies according to his own best judgement, but subject to the Cabinet's acceptance — at least until his prime minister can find a suitable general occasion for removing or re-posting him. If, however, he can neither persuade his colleagues to agree to a specific policy, nor modify

his policies to reach agreement, he resigns.

But suppose it turned out to be the prime minister who was in a Cabinet minority on the matter? Of course, the Cabinet would virtually never risk damaging its party by pushing a prime minister into a corner. A prime minister always holds the strongest hand. But the essential point is that policy differences should come to Cabinet for reasoned argument, bargaining and agreement on a common line. It does not do for the prime minister to undermine a minister by public implied criticism of his policy. Mrs Thatcher's exchange rate intervention created a sour atmosphere for the Budget, and the public pursuit of the same line by her close colleague, Lord Young, this week has made matters worse.

Not for the first time, Mrs Thatcher has given ammunition to those Tories who say she wants to run everything herself, never suffers a truly independent minister to flourish, and edges out those who cross her will. If Mr Lawson chooses to depart because he wants to go to the City or is disinclined to wait for the Foreign Office, that will do no harm. If he appears to go because he feels undermined, that will harm Mrs Thatcher within her party.

In times of emergency, energetic prime ministers with the qualities of leadership rightly enjoy extra power. In calmer times, it should be different. At the moment, the Cabinet conventions are somewhat in eclipse. Yet the Cabinet system has not come to an end, and even the most powerful prime minister needs the goodwill of colleagues of independent stature.

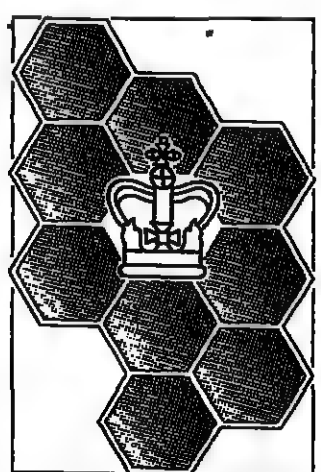
SCIENCE REPORT

Hail the queen

One of the long-standing puzzles in the biology of honeybees seems at last to have been solved. Dr Keith Slessor and his colleagues at Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, have identified five complex chemicals which together are the means by which worker bees recognize their queen.

The findings, published in *Nature* today, are high achievements for experimental biology and analytical chemistry, and underline the complexity of bee communication. Honeybee colonies contain up to 80,000 workers co-operating in an organized way. For this reason, and because bees are economically important, their behaviour has been studied since ancient times. Aristotle, for example, was convinced of the importance of communication between bees, but he had no idea of the underlying mechanisms.

The impetus for modern research on the behaviour of honeybees stems from the work of the late Karl von Frisch, who showed that bees direct each other towards sources of food by performing stylized dance routines. Slessor and his colleagues have concentrated on the reasons for the social cohesion of the honeybee colony, known to be brought about by a substance in the mandibular gland complex of the dominant reproductive queen. This substance is a cocktail of chemicals known as pheromones, or semiochemicals, which convey information from the queen to her workers.



David Hart

Worker bees respond to the substance by gathering round the queen and attending her in what is called the retinue response, licking her and touching her with their antennae. Later, the attendant workers move out into the colony to communicate the presence of the queen. But despite more than 20 years of research on the retinue-forming substance, none of the chemicals it is known to contain has ever been found to elicit the full retinue response.

To identify the active constituents, Slessor and his colleagues extracted the retinue-forming substance from the mandibular gland complex of egg-laying queens and separated it into several fractions, which they identified by a technique known as splitless capillary gas chromatography. Working on the assumption that the retinue response could

not be evoked by the chemicals taken singly, but only in combinations, they tested worker bees by exposing them to different pairs of chemicals from the natural substance.

Five chemicals, three of them previously identified, were found to elicit behaviour similar in some ways to the full retinue response. Although none elicited the full response if used alone, when combined in an approximately natural ratio they had the same effect in inducing the retinue response, even at concentrations one ten-millionth of those found naturally.

Despite this success, much remains to be learnt. For example, in experiments in an observation frame placed outdoors in the sunshine, a colony's own queen was found to evoke a greater response than the synthetic substance.

The researchers take this to suggest there are behavioural cues which are not chemical, or pheromones not yet identified in the queen substance. They are now investigating the possibility that their five chemicals may be involved in aspects of behaviour other than recognition of the queen. These may include worker orientation during swarming, the inhibition of queen rearing, individual queen recognition and other activities controlled by the queen.

They believe the five chemicals may also help in the management and control of honeybees.

RORY HOWLETT

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THE GOVERNOR SPEAKS

Governor Dukakis would beat Vice-president Bush in the November presidential election. Governor Cuomo would not. Neither would any other Democrat. This was the message of an ABC-Washington Post opinion poll yesterday.

Come November, Mr Dukakis could go the way of Mr Walter Mondale and Mr George McGovern. Or it could be close. The rest of the world should start thinking about a possible President Dukakis. And a possible President Dukakis should start thinking about the rest of the world.

His apparent ignorance of it will provoke the traditional censoriousness about American politicians, not just from Europeans, but from well-bred Americans. Mr Lewis Lapham, a clever and scornful American commentator on his country's foibles, says in his new book that almost no one in America expected the President of the United States to possess a working knowledge of history and geography. "It was a matter of doubt as to whether Jimmy Carter could have located Czechoslovakia on a map".

But American politicians tend to rise to office on domestic issues. There is nothing specifically American about that. It is to do with mass democracy. Much the same thing happened in Britain, with important consequences for British foreign policy, once prime ministers reached office via the mass franchise.

Neville Chamberlain also had trouble on the subject of Czechoslovakia. Mr Lapham should understand this since he quotes, in another context, Lloyd George's request to an aide during the Paris peace conference: "Refresh my memory. Is it Upper or Lower Silesia that we are giving away?"

Unlike most American politicians, Mr Dukakis speaks a foreign language (Spanish). This means he addresses the newly-important Hispanic vote in its mother tongue. If it

means much else, it is something to worry about. If American politicians start addressing special groups of voters in languages unintelligible to the majority, it is one more denial of the notion of America as melting pot.

If, in the great late Nineteenth Century immigration, the newcomers had been encouraged to speak only their mother languages — if there were presidential candidates able to win their votes by orating at them in Russian, Yiddish, Polish and Italian — the United States would never attained the political unity which alone enabled it to become a great power and eventually the leading defender of the West.

Until very recently, America's rulers understood this. Early this century, President Theodore Roosevelt denounced what he called "hyphenated Americans" — Italian-Americans, German-Americans, and others who saw themselves as Italians or Germans first and Americans second. He was not against their civilisations. He was concerned to develop America's. Today, with the post-Vietnam revolt against "Waps", Theodore Roosevelt would be denounced as an Anglo-Saxon supremacist.

America's political institutions are Anglo-Saxon in nature and origin. But they have also enabled vastly differing races to prosper and be protected. The present ethnic self-assertion could, in the next century, turn the United States into a group of warring, linguistic fiefdoms — harangued by politicians in a variety of tongues. The separatist cry would go up. Such an America would be incapable of ensuring the influence of Anglo-Saxon democracy in the world, with dire consequences for Western Europe — where huddles the most vulnerable group of democracies on earth.

This nightmare is a long way from Mr Dukakis and the Hispanic vote. His chasing it in its mother tongue is mere courtesy and flattery. But that is all it should remain.

GLASNOST WITH GAPS

The verdict of the Soviet authorities on the status of Nagorno-Karabakh, the predominantly Armenian enclave administered by the republic of Azerbaijan, has been swift and uncompromising. The petition from Nagorno-Karabakh and the claim by the republic of Armenia have been rejected categorically. The two quarrelling republics have been told to restore order, and the principle that borders are fixed once and for all has been restated in a way that brooks no challenge.

All the embattled region can look forward to is an injection of state funds and an influx of outside observers. The two republican leaderships now have the authority, and the obligation, to halt new unrest — with force, it must be assumed, if that is deemed necessary. An uneasy truce will prevail. How long this holds will depend on how long the authorities can suppress both rival nationalist sentiment and the truth about it.

The difficulties involved were foreshadowed in a small way earlier this week when an Armenian journalist on the staff of *Pravda* protested to his editor about the content of an article published over his signature. The article — the first authoritative account of the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute to appear in the official Moscow media — translated the age-old ethnic and territorial dispute into the uncompromising terms of communist orthodoxy, dubbing those who wanted to change its status as extreme nationalists and enemies of communism. The journalist took exception both to the strident tone, and to the association of his name with an anti-Armenian view.

For a correspondent of the official Communist Party paper to choose his allegiance to Armenia over his loyalty to the party (or its official voice) indicates the scale of Mr Gorbachev's problem in trying to reduce tension in the Caucasus. The combination of national sentiment and the now accepted policy of *glasnost* makes ethnic unrest especially hard to control. Nagorno-Karabakh will be a test.

Ever since *glasnost* entered Mr Gorbachev's

reform programme nearly two years ago, questions have been raised about its limits and its purpose. Some attribute it to a recognition that without greater freedom of information the Soviet Union will be unequal to the demands of the modern world. Others see *glasnost* as merely the means whereby Mr Gorbachev can consolidate his power: it can be used to improve the economy, expose the shortcomings of his predecessors and partially satisfy the intelligentsia — but no more.

Slowly, a pattern has emerged. *Glasnost* is applied, within limits, to pre-Gorbachev history — the more remote the period, the more extensive the *glasnost*. It is applied to *émigré* exponents of Russian culture — but only posthumously. It is applied to social and economic problems, so long as something is being done about them, and to accidents and disasters — after the event, when the limits of the damage are clear. When, as with ethnic disputes and living political critics, the happy ending is not apparent and the aftermath unpredictable and possibly uncontrollable, the shutters remain closed.

With Nagorno-Karabakh, the limits to *glasnost* have become disappointingly obvious. Amateur film smuggled to the West has shown hundreds of thousands demonstrating in Yerevan; Moscow television has shown only maps. Self-appointed spokesmen for the Armenian cause have been left to fill the vacuum. Their accounts of the anti-Armenian violence in Azerbaijan, coloured perhaps by the apocrypha of earlier Armenian-Turkish encounters, are all that is available. None of this is conducive to the cause of *glasnost*, still less to the cause of truth.

The protest by *Pravda*'s Armenian journalist was just one sign that *glasnost* might break out of its containment. Armenians in the Yerevan, like Baltic and Tatar demonstrators elsewhere, have cited *glasnost* to support their cause. So far, their claim to it has been rejected. But as long as they make their claim, there is hope that the shutters on Soviet life will one day be thrown open.

TO THOSE WHO SIT AND WAIT

There is a dangerous sense of unreality about the European Community's move towards a single internal market at the end of 1992. People have been talking about this since the European Community was set up. Yet national markets of neighbouring community countries have remained as stubbornly diverse as ever, having to be treated as separate export markets as different as the United States or Japan.

The apparently simple concept of a single market involves 286 proposals by the European Commission to change national regulations and adopt Community-wide laws. These range from excise duties on lorries to drug testing and telephone plugs. Only a small fraction have yet been approved by the Council of Ministers and, as each proposal is reached, there is intense haggling between different countries, often intended to reduce the degree of harmonization that will be achieved.

It is thus understandable if managers in industry and commerce, who may be preoccupied with the impact of changes in the exchange rate over the next few weeks, regard the prospect of what will happen in 1993 as something to be left in the pending tray for a year or two. As both Lord Young and the Confederation of British Industry have discovered, that is what is happening through most of the economy.

But that is a profoundly mistaken and short-sighted approach. The single market will become as much a reality as the Channel tunnel due to be opened at that time, however distant that too seems today. It will have a much greater impact on business in Britain, as in other Community countries, than our original entry into the Common Market.

Those who do not plan now to take advantage of the opportunities will probably

become victims of the planning already being conducted much more vigorously across the Channel. British firms should be taking as keen an interest in the development of the single structure and harmonized regulations as in preparing to operate under them.

The CBI's claim that firms that do not prepare risk being rapidly forced out of business is intended to shock but there is every reason to think it is true. The employers' organization is doing a vital service for its members by its campaign to show the changes that will be required, the rethinking of products, the restructuring of sales forces and much more besides.

Mr John Owens, the CBI's deputy director general, gave some striking examples of how the more imaginative firms are re-organizing themselves to face the challenge and take advantage of it. They should bring alarm to many a board room.

Those who find themselves targeted by yet another national advertising campaign will be tempted to make the usual response of setting up some departmental working party — or assigning a colleague with some spare time — to make a report on what the company needs to do to cope with this additional government-imposed burden. The contrary message of the CBI is clear. The transformation of the market in less than five years' time should be a central concern of chief executives.

The move to make the much-discussed single market of 320 million a reality has the potential to raise the rate of economic growth within the EEC, just as the breaking down of internal trade barriers has accelerated activity so often in history. In that process, there will be spectacular winners — and losers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Aerosol damage to the ozone layer

From Mr Joseph Farman
Sir, It was with dismay that I read your Science Report, "Sunspot v aerosol" (March 16). The Ozone Trends Panel, convened by NASA clearly states:

a. There has been a large, sudden and unexpected decrease in the abundance of spring-time Antarctic ozone over the last decade. Ozone decreases of more than 50 per cent in total column, and 95 per cent locally between 15 and 20 km altitude have been observed.

b. Whilst the depletion is largest in the Antarctic spring-time, ozone appears to have decreased since 1979 by 5 per cent or more at all latitudes south of 60 degrees South throughout the year.

c. The weight of evidence strongly indicates that man-made chlorine compounds are primarily responsible for the observed decrease in ozone within the polar vortex.

d. There have been decreases from 1969 to 1986 in the annual average of total column ozone ranging from 1.7 to 3 per cent, at latitudes between 30 and 64 degrees in the Northern Hemisphere. More pronounced decreases, up to 6.2 per cent, have been observed during the winter months.

e. Model calculations predict greater depletions at mid and high latitudes in winter than in summer. However, the decreases observed during the winter months

are more than twice as large as those predicted.

f. The models do not have the ability to simulate the Antarctic ozone depletions, and so cannot be used to assess the possible impact of those depletions at other seasons and latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere.

I submit that these, necessarily selected, extracts are more important than the matters discussed by your columnist. The inference which I draw from these findings is that we cannot afford to be complacent about existing policy (the Montreal Protocol) for control of the emission of compounds containing chlorine or bromine.

When that protocol was signed, in September, 1987, we were told that it should "hopefully keep ozone depletion to less than 2 per cent". The protocol permits the amounts of chlorine and bromine in the atmosphere to be still increasing by the year 2000. It would appear from all available evidence that such increases are hazardous.

Yours sincerely,
J. C. FARMAN,
British Antarctic Survey,
(Natural Environment Research Council),
High Cross,
Madingley Road,
Cambridge,
March 18.

Books that form a city's heritage

From the Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and others
Sir, The creation of the John Rylands Research Institute as a constituent part of the John Rylands University Library of Manchester was announced recently. To achieve its objectives a sum in excess of £1 million is now being sought "through sponsorship, grants and other sources".

Among the "other sources" contemplated is a sale of duplicates which arose through the merger of the John Rylands with the university library in 1972. This in itself would hardly be a matter for concern in the normal course of events but the contents of the sale, announced to take place on April 14, make nonsense of any acceptable interpretation of the term "duplicates".

Of the 98 volumes involved, 67 great rarities come from the Spencer collection — in the words of Renouard, the great 19th-century French bibliographer, "the most beautiful and richest private library in Europe" — and 23 from the library of Professor R. C. Christie, one of the university's greatest benefactors.

Both collections came into the library in 1892 and 1901 respec-

tively, with a view to their permanent retention.

The proposed sale raises questions of trusteeship and beneficence. How can any university sell items in its trust which were intended to benefit its city and locality? How far can benefactors expect their intentions and hopes to be respected? If this sale of nationally important materials goes ahead, clearly benefactors should not expect too much. At least, not from the University of Manchester. Surely the university should withdraw from this lamentable sale. It is not too late.

Yours etc,
DEREK BREWER, Master,
Emmanuel College, Cambridge.
KENYON (former Chairman,
Friends of the National Libraries),
BAUMFIELD, City Librarian of
Birmingham,
R. F. CARR, Librarian, University
of Leeds,
F. K. FOX, Librarian, Trinity
College, Dublin,
C. J. HUNT, Librarian, British
Library of Political & Economic
Science,
FREDERICK RATCLIFFE,
Librarian, University of
Cambridge,
D. G. VAISEY, Bodley's Librarian,
Emmanuel College, Cambridge,
March 21.

Ford in Dundee

From Mr John Lintley Hood
Sir, The Transport and General Workers Union has threatened that no components produced by a "single union" Ford factory in Dundee would ever be installed in any Ford car made in this country, with the predictable result that Ford has decided to take its business elsewhere.

Does the TGWU threat extend also to such Ford components which will now be made, by non-TGWU workers, and in defiance of the union "Blue Book", in some foreign country, or is the malice of the TGWU restricted solely to British workers?

Yours faithfully,
J. LINSLEY HOOD,
Robins, Greenway,
West Monkton,
Somerset.

Mark of distinction

From Sir Duncan Watson
Sir, Mr Gerald Leach's letter today (March 19) reminds me of the time, some 30 years ago, when the growing fashion of hatlessness permitted those of us expected to parade in accepted Whithorn uniform to carry rather than wear our bowlers, at least on hot days. But they were always put on 10 yards short of the Cenotaph, so that they could be duly doffed while passing it — and then they were carried again.

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN WATSON,
Scone, Steels Lane,
Oxshott,
Surrey.

Weather eye open

From the Managing Director of Noble Denon Weather Services Ltd
Sir, In his Commentary (March 16) Digby Anderson highlighted the undesirability of the monopolistic attitude of the Meteorological Office. From my position at the head of one of the country's leading private sector meteorological companies I do, of course, give his views my wholehearted support.

Digby Anderson also makes the point that the Met Office has tried to prevent the private sector from obtaining primary data from the USA. This is certainly true, but the attempt has failed as the US sources are legitimate commercial organisations over which the Met Office has no jurisdiction.

The Met Office has chosen not to enter the data supply market and has therefore driven potential customers elsewhere. That is their choice and they are hardly in a position to complain if a competitor then buys a freely-available product from a perfectly legitimate source elsewhere.

Although the data supply market is a very competitive one the Met Office would generate some revenue by matching the products and prices offered by the US organisation. If they provide the

Post-16 education

From Mr Stuart Sexton
Sir, You report (later editions, March 14) the publication of a booklet, with joint authors a 'journalist' from your sister paper, *The Times Educational Supplement*, and an ILEA official. The booklet proposes a "post-16 education authority" for inner London, after the ILEA is disbanded.

There may, or there may not, be a case for adult education within inner London being under one umbrella, but to suggest that all post-16 education should be under a new ILEA would certainly undermine the schools shortly to be administered by the individual boroughs.

"Post-16" includes the sixth forms. Schools need sixth forms both for educational and financial reasons. The present ILEA, sometimes assisted by the diocese, has been trying to close down school sixth forms and replace them with sixth-form or tertiary colleges. Excellent schools such as the London Oratory or Cardinal Vaughan would quickly wither away if they lost their sixth forms.

We do not want a new, post-16 ILEA to continue the dirty work of destroying school sixth forms. Yours faithfully,
STUART SEXTON (Director,
Education Unit,
Institute of Economic Affairs),
Warrington Park School,
Chesham Common,
Warrington,
Surrey,
March 15.

right products at the right price then they would almost certainly win the bulk of the market for data in this country.

I have the highest respect for the technical capabilities of the Met Office. In activities such as global numerical analysis and forecasting and also in research it probably has no equal anywhere in the world. I believe that it should concentrate on those areas of excellence rather than try to provide all meteorological services to all people. To be both wholesaler and retailer is a very difficult task.

In the USA, where the market for weather services per head of population far exceeds that in this country, the National Weather Service acts as the "wholesaler" while a very large percentage of the "retail" services to end-users are provided by commercial meteorological companies.

In a small way we have started a move in that direction in this country. Just how far we can go will depend on how we satisfy our customers. They will certainly vote with their money.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN LYNAGH,
Managing Director,
Noble Denon Weather Services
Ltd, Noble House,
131 Aldersgate Street, EC1,
March 18.

Costly misuse of accident units

From Dr Roger A. Saunders
Sir, I refer to your report on the cost of accidents to the NHS ("Britain's disturbing 'epidemic'", March 19, early editions) and I would agree completely with the findings of the Medical Commission on Accident Prevention to which you refer. We do need to collect more information involving visitors to our local hospitals, particularly to accident and emergency units.

Of particular concern are the findings of a study undertaken by this centre during 1986. We took details of all visits to Poole General Hospital and Weymouth District Hospital by the public. A comprehensive report is to be published soon.

It came as a surprise that over 30 per cent of visits by the public could not be regarded as an emergency. It was disturbing to note that the public call for items such as bandages, plasters and cotton wool, Nappy rash, sweat rashes and other minor complaints, which could be effectively dealt with at GP level, were also unacceptably high, particularly during the summer months.

Because the "casualty" has arrived in the waiting room he or she has to see a doctor. Until we stop using our over-stretched accident and emergency units as we would a chemist shop not only are we wasting time and money, we are giving the impression that our

accident registers contain details of genuine emergencies.

We should continue to educate the public via our health education programmes not to abuse the accident and emergency services and continue to publicise safe procedures and practices on the road, at home, at work and at all times. However, education, training and publicity programmes can only be effectively planned if they are based upon known facts rather than emotive opinion.

Whilst the police provide detailed road accident detail in a standard form of analysis and the setting of priorities by the Department of Transport and local authorities, other accident data is disappointingly scant. Dr Raffier's comments, and indeed the report of the medical commission which he chaired, are too important to go unnoticed.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER SAUNDERS, Director,
Centre for Safety Research
Association,
Dorset Institute,
Holland House,
Oxford Road,
Bournemouth,
Dorset,
March 21.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 24 1897

Since the mid-17th century Crete had been under Turkish domination, which frequently provoked the Cretans to rebellion. In September, 1896, a new constitution came into effect, but the promises reforms were not fulfilled. In 1898 Prince George of Greece became high commissioner and in 1908 the Cretans voted for union with Greece.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE

THE CRETAN QUESTION

ATHENS, March 23.

A telegram from Constantinople stated that the Turkish army has received the strictest orders not to overstep the frontier, even if attacked by the Greeks. The Greek superior officers are said to be doing their utmost to control the impetuosity of their men, who are eager to attack. Fears are expressed that on the 25th inst. (O.S.), the day of the declaration of Greek independence, the troops may get out of hand. The Government organ, *Palaigonia*, to-night exhorts the army to obedience.

The Greek Vice-Consul at Retimo and Heraklion have been withdrawn.

A friend who has recently arrived from Crete states that the utmost despondency prevails among the Mahomedan leaders there. Whether autonomy is established in Crete or union with Greece takes place, they regard the future with despair.

With autonomous institutions they believe that they would be completely at the mercy of the Christian majority when once the forces of the Powers were withdrawn. Under union they consider that, however excellent might be the intentions of the Greek Government, there would be no effectual restraint on the ferocity of their Christian compatriots, who would not allow a large body of Greek officials to be sent to the island. The cry of "Crete for the Cretans" would soon, they say, be raised, and any vigorous interference on the part of the Greek Government would be resented. Hitherto they have depended upon Constantinople for support, and this being cut off they see nothing but absolute ruin in the future. Many of them are already reduced to destitution, and these anxieties are increased by the suspicion with which they are regarded by the Mahomedan populace, which denounces them as having betrayed their cause, and threatens to prevent them by force should they endeavour to leave the island.

There can be little doubt that, whatever the system of autonomy now set up by the Powers, the union will sooner or later become an accomplished fact. What is needed is a period of transition during which provisional arrangements could be made for the future of the Mahomedan population. That the greater number will emigrate may be regarded as certain. Any attempt to repatriate the Mahomedan peasants from the isolated villages in the interior would only prepare the way for future catastrophes. Now all are congregated in the seaport towns, and arrangements might be made to enable such of them as are willing to emigrate to Asia Minor. The refugees recently saved at Candano expressed the wish to go to Smyrna. Others, especially among the peasants, are desirous of beginning life anew in Rhodes. It would be admirable, if only to relieve the congestion at Cana, Candia and Retimo, to give as many of the Mahomedans as will accept it the opportunity of making their fortune elsewhere. A considerable portion of the population of the towns may be willing to remain, but the peasants who are the main sufferers by the successive insurrections, would probably be glad to find a refuge in some other land.

Growth of towns

From Mr Edward Bedwell
Sir, If John Young (report, March 10) believes that "a virtual halt has been imposed in the further expansion of new towns and designated growth centres like Basingstoke, Andover and Swindon" he has been very badly misinformed as far as Swindon is concerned.

The western expansion of the town is still roaring onward at full pace and a development application to build a northern expansion the size of Salisbury (30,000 people) is being put to the Minister of the Environment for approval very soon. All this at a time of decreasing local government funds for the essential infrastructure required.

In fact Swindon is facing an over-development crisis of major proportion. Yours sincerely,
EDDIE BEDWELL,
(Chairman, Northern Development Action Committee),
c/o 30 Calder Close,
Swindon,
Wiltshire,
March 11.

A slur on Nancy

From Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle
Sir, Philip Jacobson ("The mystery of the chain-saw madame", March 18) is far wide of the mark in describing Nancy as "an unattractive industrial centre in eastern France".

The centre of Nancy provides a feast for the lover of 18th-century buildings and the Place Stanislas is as fine as any square in France. Yours truly,
JAUNCEY OF TULLICHETLE,
House of Lords,
March 21.

Flat out

From Dr J. G. Denholm
Sir, Mrs Mary Wood (March 21) need not be concerned about the translation of "longitudinal studies of cognitive changes in old age". Those of us in older age groups immediately recognise this statement as meaningless and that it is usually made by younger age groups to impress even younger age groups.

Yours in delightful ignorance,
JIM DENHOLM,
Gimsons,
Kings Chase,
Witham, Essex,
March 21.

Duty to write prescriptions clearly

main gangway from the quay side.

he had been a passenger on the defendants' aircraft which had crashed while approaching Zia Airport on an internal Bangladesh flight from Chittagong to Dhaka.

BOOKS

The matter of honour

Peter Ackroyd

THE DUEL IN EUROPEAN HISTORY
Honour and the Reign of Aristocracy
By V.G. Kiernan
Oxford, £25

Marx did it. Aaron Burr did it. Even Castlereagh and Canning did it. Two French officers fought over a cat, and Handel fought over a harpsichord. Tolstoy challenged Turgenev to a duel (the proper phrase is "called out" or, in aristocratic demotic, "grass before breakfast") as a result of an argument provoked by Tolstoy falling asleep over *Fathers and Sons*. Duels were fought over women, over politics, over cards, over practically anything, but the ceremony was always the same — the ritual pacing, the air of imperturbability and even indifference, all these elements combined to make the duel what Professor Kiernan describes in this absorbing book as "one of the most fantastical things in human annals".

It derived in part from ordeal by combat, in which Providence was thought to boost the

right arm of the victor, and in part from medieval jousting. Faint hearts never won fair ladies; but, according to the old code, faint hearts never won anything, and the origins of the duel can be seen in the twin passion for power and privilege. It took its orthodox shape in the 17th and 18th centuries, at once demonstrating its fatal attractions. More individualized than the vendetta, more glorious than mass battle, it also possessed the charm which comes from the flirtation (and often even union) with death.

But it was also a mark of exclusivity; only gentlemen could take up arms against each other, and, by denying this basic human right to the peasants beneath them, the aristocrats of Europe were able to discriminate even in death. The poor murdered each other, the rich were engaged in a social ritual. In the reign of George III, for example, there were 91 fatalities in duels but only two executions as a result. Duelling represented a kind of secular morality, in other words, providing what was in general a spurious code of "honour" which had as much to do with enforced leisure and gruesome

theatricality as it did with any genuine sense of grievance. That is why it was often rendered comically both in fiction and in drama — there is something inherently funny about a person whose behaviour is imprisoned by convention, but how much funnier that he would rather embrace death than defy the social code? As a result this is not simply a book about duelling; in Kiernan's hands the subject takes on a larger compass and becomes a study of power itself. Of course no human activity that lasted so long and spread so widely could be quite without merit. Certainly duels were preferable to wars, and such an irrational ritual did have its uses in schematizing human anger and violence. But there is also the troubled matter of "honour" which, as one Maltese knight discovered to his cost, was honoured both in the breach and in the observance: when he refused to fight a challenger, he was sentenced to five years in an unlit dungeon and then imprisonment for life. "Honour" can of course be an aspect of moral strength — no human being can live properly without a modicum of self-esteem — but, as Kiernan points out, its roots may lie in soil deeper than that of European virtue. In the risking of death for the sake of an artificial code there may be some "whispering of blood sacrifice as the demand of tyrannical gods".

In the course of his argument Kiernan provides many examples of the duel in action, most of them barbarous and all of them ridiculous. In fact there comes a point when these vignettes of blood and wounded pride sound much the same — not because they are in themselves boring, but rather because they embody what is essentially a single human instinct.

Hierarchies change, of course, and the Victorian middle class effectively delivered the coup de grace to duelling when the waltz rather than the pistol became the mark of virtue — although, curiously enough, in France and Germany it was the bourgeois search for what Kiernan calls the "ignis fatuus of gentility" which helped to preserve duelling well into the 20th century. And he goes on to suggest that it had one vast and painful legacy in the conduct of the Great War.

Yet it is not really dead, only resting, and from *West Side Story* to *Star Wars* the theme of single combat retains its power over audiences who would actually see blood drawn only at football matches. And how could it not be so? The duel, after all, may easily serve as an emblem of the human condition — fuelled by aggression but constrained by a code, composed of tragedy and buffoonery in equal measure, finding its true measure only in death. Kiernan has written something of a polemic but he manages, at the close of this fine book, to condense it not exactly to praise his subject — as he explains, quoting Schelling, to risk all is perhaps "to be possessed of life in its highest human vigour". But the last word should go to Ludwig, in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Gondoliers*, who also tells us much about the human condition: "I hate a duel with pistols. It's not the ball I mind — it's the bang."

A bit of a witch

NOVEL OF THE WEEK

Victoria Glendinning

A FAR CRY FROM KENSINGTON
By Muriel Spark
Constable, £9.95

The most memorable thing about Muriel Spark's sportive and sly novel is the good advice continually given to the reader, confidently ladled out and generously "included in the price of this book" — tips about how to lose weight, how to concentrate, how to foot the taxman, how to write a novel, how to deal with unanswered letters, how to cure rheumatic pain, how to decide whether or not to marry someone.

The least memorable thing about it is the plot, which even after two readings seems a bit like a thin, tightly-knotted piece of string which a sensible person would discard rather than pick at conscientiously.

Mrs Hawkins, the chatty narrator and robust dispenser of advice, is a young widow. It is 1954. Money is short, class still means something, the wireless is tuned to Radio Luxembourg, London is full of displaced persons, and espresso bars are the latest thing. Mrs Hawkins is very fat, which makes people feel comfortable with her and invites confidences.

She is socially inexperienced, and declines to leave the dining-room with all the other ladies and leave the gentlemen to their port towards the end of a dinner-party, on the grounds that the gentlemen have done nothing to deserve this ostracism. But she's a quick learner, and is soon adept herself at the

featherlight put-down: "I have always liked Abigail de Mordell Staines-Knight, as she then was, Abigail Wilson as she is now." She is free not only with advice, but with shrewd observations: "It is not because we are rats that we tend to abandon people who are down, it is because we are embarrassed."

Fat Mrs Hawkins lives in a shabby-genteel house in South Kensington let out in furnished rooms. The other tenants are all "characters", and she knows all their stories, but the only one you have to remember is Wanda the emotional dressmaker, because something dreadful is going to happen to her.

Mrs Hawkins works as an editor for publishers, who variously go broke or are jailed for fraud. The opportunities here for jokes at the expense of the literary world are not thrown away. There is one author whom Mrs Hawkins particularly loathes,

called Hector Barlett. He is the hanger-on of a woman novelist as successful and gifted as, say, Muriel Spark. In the opinion of Mrs Hawkins, Barlett "vomited literary matter; he urinated and sweated, he excreted it." She repeatedly called him a "pisseur de copie" both behind his back and to his face, and he becomes enraged. It is Barlett's devious revenge on Mrs Hawkins that leads to the sad end of Polish Wanda.

You could say it's all Mrs Hawkins's fault; this is not her view, though when people take her advice she admits to feeling "spooky, empty, haunted". Beneath Muriel Spark's pizzazz social malice there is always something sinister. Mrs Hawkins is religious in a superstitious way, muttering Hail Marys at Angelus time. Other people are superstitious in a religious way, believing in the power of the "Black Box", a craze of the 1950s which purported to cure ailments at long distance by means of the dubious science of radionics.

Hungry for certainties, people fall into evil. Mrs Hawkins, like her creator, may be something of a witch and I don't think it would be safe to act on any of her advice, except in the matter of losing weight. She gets thin and finds a nice new husband. I'm afraid one day she may eat him for breakfast.

Bright first novels

FICTION

Elaine Feinstein

THE MARCH FENCE

By Matthew Yorke
Viking, £10.95

CHINESE WHISPERS

By Robert Sproat
Faber, £10.95

BURNING YOUR OWN

By Glenn Patterson
Chatto & Windus, £11.95

Here is a new generation of fresh and very disparate talent. In *The March Fence*, Matthew Yorke puts the youngest son of the Scottish estate-owning family into his cousin's Leeds steelworks. From the moment this narrator, Stephen Rusell, recognizes the goblets on his cousin's desk as being gifts from the local garage, we know we can trust him.

The language of the shop floor and the betting shop is caught with a precision which is as much a matter of cadence and the placing of individual words as vocabulary. "I've got things to do, me." As always, in getting the language right subtle observation can be made about the culture in which it is spoken. Those of us who were impressed by Hogarth's nostalgic descriptions of working class culture will recognize the folk wisdom that rejects pointless anxiety, and the fatalism that makes the recurring dream of escape to the deserts of the south an unlikely fantasy. Yorke sets both in the new and depleted world of the present day.

Stephen is like many Wangan heroes, quiet, massive, and likeable without being particularly admirable. His situation in the world is anomalous: privileged in his social relationships, he has little more disposable income than the young men around him. He has been displaced from the beautiful hills of his childhood, which Yorke describes lovingly. His loyalties are confused: members of his family, enquiring about his aims in life, are met by a dogged "I don't know".

When he finds himself trapped in a wage in the sinister farm manager of his family's Scottish estate, we share both his desperation and his mounting, superstitious terror that the immorality of the bet is in some sense contributory to his brother's death. Gambling of a more mundane kind follows. Yorke avoids the usual vision of the northern industrial landscapes of cobble streets and back-to-backs, in presenting the masculine companionship of skilled men at work who remain articulately tender to one another's grief. It is a most impressive debut.

Robert Sproat's first novel is really more of an ingenious game. Very little is known about Genghis Khan, and what can be learned from historical documents is often contradictory. It is in part Sproat's intention to put this right; rather, he adds more whispers to those already distorting the information from the 13th century. One page is filled with a huge question mark, which is said to represent the thoughts of the trumpeter of Cracow upon

being mortally struck by the archer Koten. It's a game, and a clever game, which in addition suggests cynical speculations about the possible human response to evil. There is very little of the colloquial vigour of Sproat's earlier stories; all the energy has gone into the invention of formal language for scribes, military historians, and nursery story-tellers. Some of these witnesses suggest it is a good idea not to

other; others that every decision made turns out to be wrong. These are persuasive conclusions. But it seems a very elaborate apparatus, set up largely to display the elegance and range of Sproat's inventive pastiche. The *Mongols* were illiterate, and their aristocracy chose to remain so. For all the bleakness of contemporary Ulster, the writers who have come out of its violent streets have been remarkably fruitful. Glenn Patterson is the youngest of the novelists here, and in this, his first book, he writes about a child of 10 who desperately wants to belong to some group of his peers. The boy gives his loyalty to red-haired Francis Hagan, who lives on a rubbish dump, as much as anything else because Francis has kind eyes, and has befriended the rats who share his world with him. Sectarian strife frightens Mal less than the older boys in his street, or the quarrels between his mother, moping over her brown brows with a tin of Dettol, and his boozing father, whose business has collapsed. The book moves towards its denouement with unpretentious honesty.

Crook in Oz

THRILLERS

Tim Heald

THE HONEY ANT

By Duncan Kyle
Collins, £11.95

Consider the significance of the author's photograph in book marketing. The pictures on the backs of these first two books are classics of the genre.

Mr Kyle's photo shows a middle-aged chap in a tony check overcoat and rakishly angled hat, trim white beard, rimless specs, and shrewd, mildly amused eyes. Definitely British, definitely professional, could almost be a senior if slightly eccentric detective, but one is not surprised to find he used to be a career journalist.

Like picture, like book. He starts, typically, with Oz, Western Oz, to be precise, and

it is clear from the off that he has actually been there and sweated out the lunchtime stabbies while walking up Barrack Street exactly as he describes it. Good heroine too, a spunky WRAC, who comes into an inheritance of northern ranchland thanks to a will mysteriously delivered by a shadowy who, from there on in the tale unfolds with all the understated verve of a modern Nevil Shute. Good stuff in a no-nonsense vein. Just like the picture.

● *Rite of Spring*, by Andrew Greeley (Macdonald, £11.95). If Mr Kyle's portrait speaks volumes, Mr Greeley's shouts book-shells, whole chains of them. Not Mr Greeley, but Father Greeley, programme director of the National Opinion Research Centre in Chicago, and a professor at the University of Arizona. Father Greeley is pictured in front of stacked books, and a painting of the Virgin. He has a dog collar, an impish grin, a sexy white and black cardigan of Mexican appearance, and a deliberately nonchalant pose. What on earth is going on in the American priesthood?

His book concerns an unappealing Chicago tax attorney with extra-sensory perception and a breast fixation. There is a lot more sex, and nudity than one would expect from a holy father, though the folksy Irishness is more predictable. "Myself such a shy Irish biddy" is Irish-ate-Tucson, not as she is spoken Corkside.

"This story of spring," says the author, in his attempt to pre-empt the reviewer's task, "is a retelling of the old Irish version of the quest for the Holy Grail." This has all the hallmarks of a big, big book but you would be better advised to seek out the original. Greeley's goal is not the same at all, at all, I'll be thinking, begorrah and Amen.

● *The Catacomb*, by Brian Glanville (Hodder & Stoughton, £11.95). Brian Glanville's mugshot by his son Toby stares out in an appropriately woebegone, Italianate style from the back of *The Catacomb*. Oxford don returns to Bologna in avenging quest for wife's assassin only to narrowly escape railway station massacre. There are intriguing double everything, involving the don's twin obsession with the contemporary and the past. Difficult and, on the whole, rewarding stuff this, but grim. This is a consistently underrated author — perhaps because he is better known as a football correspondent — but he ought to cheer up, choose a smiling author picture, and inject some cheer and pizzazz into his prose. Serious book and well worth reading but too solemn by half.

● *Hidden Agenda*, by Anna Porter (Allison & Busby, £10.95). Anna Porter's picture is wonderfully cheery and so is her book. She is Canada's second whitziest publisher (a real, not back-handed, compliment) and she has used publishing for her background. I much enjoyed the passage when our heroine is wrapped in a white towel contemplating lunch — "hoping he would suggest the Ritz" — with Eric Major of Hodder. Despite this, Eric, in real life, didn't publish the book. I'm afraid he was probably right.

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

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BBC1

- 6.00** Ceefax AM.
6.40 Leon Bird in Truth Aches (b/w). 6.55 Weather.
7.00 Breakfast Time. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; and 8.55 Regional news and weather.
9.00 News and weather followed by Open Air from the Rovers Return, the *Coronation Street* pub where stars from Britain's oldest soap await viewers' calls 8.50 (Kilroy).
10.00 News and weather followed by *Children's BBC*. Andy Crane with programme details followed by *Play School* (r), and *The Adventures of Spot* (r).
10.55 Five to Eleven. Rudolph Walker with a reading 11.00. News and weather followed by Open Air featuring stars of *Coronation Street*, plus the chance to vote for this afternoon's film. On offer are three b/w British comedies - *Too Many Crooks* (1959); *Passport to Pimlico* (1949); and *The Ghost of St Michael's* (1941).
12.00 News and weather followed by *Daytime Live*. Magazine series 12.55 Regional news and weather.
1.00 One O'Clock News with Martin Lewis. Weather 1.30. *Neighbours*. A shattered Helen vents her anger on her sick sister Laura 1.40. *Going for Gold*.
2.15 *Witness*. Choice. This morning's Open Air viewers voted for one of the following comedies - *Too Many Crooks* (1959) starring George Cole and directed by Mario Zampi; *Passport to Pimlico* (1949) starring Margaret Rutherford and directed by Henry Cornelius; and *The Ghost of St Michael's* (1941) starring George Cole, directed by Marcel Varlet. 3.40 Cartoon.

BBC2

- 6.55** Open University: Innovation and Coal. Ends at 7.20.
9.00 Ceefax.
9.30 *Daytime on Two*: basic Spanish conversation series 9.55. *History*. Mary Queen of Scots 10.15. Animals that depend on soil 10.30. Technology and design 11.00. *Thinkabout* 11.15. Going to school in Victorian times 11.45. Why are some people more competitive than others? 12.05. Science: the story of polymers 12.25. Alternative achievements 12.50. Appraising the achievements of the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative 1.20. For the young 1.35. *Chalkovsky's The Sleeping Beauty* illustrated with puppets 2.00. News and weather followed by a programme on spring festivals.
2.15 *Witness*. House. Seamus Heaney visits Dove Cottage in the Lake District once the home of William Wordsworth (r).
2.30 Look, Stranger: The Steam-Powered Visitor. A profile of the Rev E. R. R. Boston whose backyard house is a designated National Transport Museum (r).
3.00 News and weather followed by World Figure Skating Championships from Budapest. Barry Davies introduces highlights of last night's pairs' free programme.
3.50 News, regional news and weather.
4.00 *Attic Archives*. In the second of his series on home movies of the past John Huntley examines film taken of people at work from the 1920s to the 1950s.
4.30 Is There Something After Death? The first of a six-part personal enquiry by Ean Begg, a Jungian analyst and psychotherapist, into the meaning of death. This afternoon his guest is Elizabeth Farrell from the College of Psychic Studies in London, who leads him to an encounter with his dead grandmother.
4.55 My Music (r).
5.30 Holiday 88 (r). (Ceefax).
6.00 *Battler's Galactica* - *Galactica 1980*. Part two of the science fiction adventure.
6.45 Cartoon Two. The Aeronauts.



Jonathan Raban: on BBC2, 7.00pm

- 7.00** Cover to Cover. This week, Hermione Lee and her guest Jonathan Raban discuss Joan Dixon's *Memoirs* the stories of Edith Wharton; and *Maggie Hemmingsway's Stop House Blues*. They also talk to Dame Ailsa Mayne about her autobiography *Public Servant, Private Woman*.
7.30 The Education Programme. Queen St Andrew's Roman Catholic High School, Clydebank, where 80 per cent of the adult learners are women and 12 teachers' posts have been saved.
8.00 Out of Court examines the role of industrial tribunals in administering justice.
8.30 *Nature*. As the British Society of Animal Production meet to discuss genetics, an examination of the latest developments in that field.
9.00 *Blackadder* R. Edmund, now Queen Elizabeth's chief executioner, has the task of removing Sir Francis Drake's head (r).
9.30 40 Minutes: Five Go to Florida. (Ceefax) (see Choice).
10.10 Cabaret at the Jangleurs introduced by Arthur Smith.
10.40 *Newsnight* presented by Peter Snow and Donald MacGormick 11.25. Weather.
11.30 Open University: Weekend Outlook 11.35. Discovering Physics. Ends at 12.05am.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00** TV-am includes Good Morning Britain at 6.20 and 6.50, with news, financial news, sport, weather and travel news. After Nine includes Claire Rayner's personal advice slot.
9.25 *Thames* news.
9.30 *Lucky Ladders*. Word game presented by Laurie Bennett 10.00. *Six Barbara* 10.25. News headlines.
10.30 The Time... The Place... Mike Scott chairs a discussion on a topical subject 11.10. *Puddle Lane*. Puppet series presented by Neil Innes, Richard Robinson and Katie Lee 11.25. *Thames* news headlines.
11.30 *HomeTown*. Roy Hudd is in Harrogate where he learns of the town's time as one of the most famous spas in Europe 12.00. The Sullivan.
12.30 News with Julia Somerville 12.55. *Thames* news.
1.00 What's My Line? 1.30. *Falcon Crest*. Drama serial 2.25. *Home Cookery Club*. Smoked Mackerel Pasta (r).
2.30 *As You Were*. Bernard Bracken recalls 1963 when Dr Beeching was swinging his axe at the railway branch lines and a hybrid episode with Morris 3.00. *Thames* news headlines 3.30. *Sans and Deans*.
4.00 *Creepy Crawlers*. Paul Nicholas with the story *Happiness is a New Coat* 4.10. *The Moonlight*. Episode 10 (r). 4.20. *The South*. Series two. Usha Prashar, director of the National Council for Voluntary Organizations, Max Hastings, editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, and MP's Frank Field and Martin Redmond.
11.30 *Indian Summer*. The story of a group of unemployed youngsters who took the chance to spend a rigorous time in India and Nepal (first shown on BBC North West).
12.00 Weather.

CHANNEL 4

- 9.30** *Schools*.
12.00 *Business Daily*. Financial and business news service presented by Susan Simons.
12.30 *Children's*.
1.00 *Sesame Street*. Pre-school series for children.
2.00 The *Perkins* series presented by Nicholas Woolley. Reporters James Mate and Jackie Ashley review yesterday's debates in both Houses and look forward to those scheduled for today.
2.30 Channel 4 Racing from Doncaster. Live action from the first flat race meeting of the season, introduced by Brough Scott. The Philip Carr. *Brookley's Stakes* (2.40); the Racecourse Handicap Book Stakes (3.40); and the Racing Post Mile (4.10). The race commentator is Graham Goodie.
4.30 Fifteen-to-One. Fast-moving general knowledge quiz game presented by William G. Stewart.
6.00 Ice Skating. The World Figure Skating Championships from Budapest featuring the men's short programme.
6.00 *Blind Faith*. A profile of Terry Wallace, who was struck down by blindness caused by diabetes. He gave up his job as a lorry driver but what was worse was having to sell his house, after which he lost all interest in life. Visits to a rehabilitation centre failed to revive his spirits - until he learned that it might be possible to play golf once again. He is not content with the England visually handicapped golf team despite having suffered a heart attack, aneurysm, cancer of the throat and kidney failure for which he underwent dialysis three times a day. A born-again Christian, he and his wife, are tireless fund raisers for the renal unit of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Edgmont, and he is an active member of the Volunteer Visitor Service, working with other blind patients.
6.30 The Sharp End examines the turmoil within the TUC over the pull out by Ford from their proposed Dundee plant. Eric Hammond of the EETPU is interviewed.
7.00 Channel 4 News with Trevor McDonald and Nicholas Owen.
7.50 *Comment* from Irwin Evelyn on the subject of the Nationality Act. Followed by *Weather*.
8.00 *Take Six Cooks*. The sixth course - dessert - is prepared by Robert May, Chief Pastrychef of the Hyatt Cavendish Tower, with 40 years' experience.
8.30 *Treasure Hunt*. Annette Rice is sent scurrying over the Chilterns at the behest of Robin Strand and Ian Taylor looking for hidden treasure. (Oracle).
9.30 Film on Four: *Lamb* (1965) starring Liam Neeson, Hugh O'Connor and Ian Bannen. An award-winning drama about a 10-year-old epileptic boy who is sent to a remote and forbidding school in Ireland and forbidden to run by the Christian Brothers by his mother who cannot keep him under control now that his father has left home. Brother Sebastian, who is beginning to question his faith, takes pity on the lad and offers him a new life away from the school. Together they escape and re-surprise in London as father and son, only for the escapee to be viewed in Ireland as a scandalous kidnapping. The net closes on the drama as the money runs out. Directed by Colin Gregg.
11.35 Film: *Half Life* (1986, colour and b/w). A documentary about the events in the Pacific when the Americans ended the first hydrogen bomb in the Marshall Islands three decades ago. Directed by Dennis O'Rourke (r).
11.55 Film: *The Quiet Duel* (1949, b/w) starring Toshiko Miura as a surgeon who contracts syphilis while operating on the wounded during the Second World War. He returns to a strict medical practice he cannot bring himself to tell his fiancée why they cannot be married. Directed by Akira Kurosawa. Ends at 2.55.

VARIATIONS

- BBC1** WALKER: 5.55pm-6.00pm. News followed by *Neighbours* 6.20pm. 6.30pm. News and weather 6.55pm. 7.00pm. *Neighbours* 7.15pm. 7.30pm. *Neighbours* 7.45pm. 8.00pm. *Neighbours* 8.15pm. 8.30pm. *Neighbours* 8.45pm. 9.00pm. *Neighbours* 9.15pm. 9.30pm. *Neighbours* 9.45pm. 10.00pm. *Neighbours* 10.15pm. 10.30pm. *Neighbours* 10.45pm. 11.00pm. *Neighbours* 11.15pm. 11.30pm. *Neighbours* 11.45pm. 12.00pm. *Neighbours* 12.15pm. 12.30pm. *Neighbours* 12.45pm. 1.00pm. *Neighbours* 1.15pm. 1.30pm. *Neighbours* 1.45pm. 2.00pm. *Neighbours* 2.15pm. 2.30pm. *Neighbours* 2.45pm. 3.00pm. *Neighbours* 3.15pm. 3.30pm. *Neighbours* 3.45pm. 4.00pm. *Neighbours* 4.15pm. 4.30pm. *Neighbours* 4.45pm. 5.00pm. *Neighbours* 5.15pm. 5.30pm. *Neighbours* 5.45pm. 6.00pm. *Neighbours* 6.15pm. 6.30pm. *Neighbours* 6.45pm. 7.00pm. *Neighbours* 7.15pm. 7.30pm. *Neighbours* 7.45pm. 8.00pm. *Neighbours* 8.15pm. 8.30pm. *Neighbours* 8.45pm. 9.00pm. *Neighbours* 9.15pm. 9.30pm. *Neighbours* 9.45pm. 10.00pm. *Neighbours* 10.15pm. 10.30pm. *Neighbours* 10.45pm. 11.00pm. *Neighbours* 11.15pm. 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Thatcher consoles soldiers' families at homecoming

Continued from page 1

Mrs Thatcher, obviously moved by the simple dignity of the homecoming, talked with the relatives before and after the ceremony.

Brigadier Cowan said: "It was a very private and emotional meeting. The Prime Minister expressed all our thoughts about the tremendous courage, restraint, self-discipline and example these two young men showed."

"Everybody who knew these men is very sad, yet extremely proud of them."

Corporal Wood will be buried with full military honours at Carshalton, south London, today. Corporal Howes will be buried at a family funeral near his Northampton home tomorrow.

More than 5,000 people attended a Belfast service yesterday in honour of the dead soldiers. Factory workers, office staff and shoppers sang hymns and prayed at the City Hall cenotaph.

After two minutes' silence, the Last Post was played. Among those laying wreaths

were two soldiers from the Royal Corps of Signals.

Among those laying wreaths in memory of the soldiers was the commanding officer of the Royal Corps of Signals in Northern Ireland, Lieutenant Colonel Martin Roberts and Lieutenant General Sir Robert Pascoe, GOC of the troops in Northern Ireland.

Catholic priest Father Hugh Murphy was also present.

Anger at the murders spilled over into some of the messages pinned to the wreaths.

One read: "Will always be remembered — our soldiers slaughtered, signed the residents of Shankill Estate."

Another from the bakery workers carried the inscription: "To our very brave heroes murdered by the enemies of Ulster."

Mr Dixie Gilmore, the Lord Mayor of Belfast, said that through television the world had seen the most horrendous act of savagery.

The two soldiers did not die in vain because the world had seen "the true face of the barbarian IRA who delight in



Lieutenant-Colonel Martin Roberts, commanding officer of the dead men, laying a wreath at the Belfast memorial service

murder, torturing the living and mutilating the dead."

The service had been held to show that the ordinary decent people of Belfast wanted nothing to do with such savagery, he added. It was also being held to commend the courage of the two soldiers who had shown true heroism by not opening fire.

The crowd applauded

loudly when it heard the Lord ask the world not to judge Ulster's decent people by the "scum of humanity who carried out this barbarous act of butchery."

Dr Jack Shearer, the Anglican dean of Belfast, said that the two young men had died because they were members of the security forces.

"Without them and others

like them, we would all be under the thumb of the gunmen," he said.

Referring to Mr Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin president, Dr Shearer said politicians like him who call black and white and white black would be the masters of Northern Ireland.

"People in England must ask themselves 'is it worth

over to this Province?' I would say, without them there would be chaos and anarchy."

"A real solution to our problems will only come when we all get together and try to resolve our differences."

"Building bridges and crossing the divide should be our priority in future whether we be politicians, churchmen or just ordinary citizens."

Commons sketch

Deafening sounds of Labour silence

"The deafening silence from the benches opposite..." began the Scottish Secretary of State, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, only to be interrupted by a deafening roar from the benches opposite.

"The deafening silence from the benches opposite..." began the Scottish Secretary of State, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, only to be interrupted by a deafening roar from the benches opposite.

"The deafening silence of the Labour Party..." Mr Rifkind was not to be diverted from his peculiar diagnosis, even though the Scottish Labour Party benches, normally pretty noisy, were now screaming and cackling and ranting at the very top of their voices.

Out in the gentle streets of Westminster, passers-by must have been nipping over to the other side of the road for fear of becoming involved. And still Mr Rifkind complained of the silence.

The crocodiles from Dundee and surrounding areas were snapping at the heels of the Secretary of State for Scotland; and he, in turn, was snapping back at them. Scottish Questions always tend to lack the children's tea-party aspect of most other areas of debate. Scottish Tories and socialists do not laughingly throw jellies at one another, they do not giggle at each other's antics, they do not splutter and coo as Uncle Mac makes jobs disappear up his sleeve.

No, the atmosphere is rather closer to the ante-chamber of a divorce court, with venomous looks, shaking fists, mutual accusation and anger, unrelieved by humour. Following the goings-on, or goings-off, at Dundee, the atmosphere had become even more tense, the divorce court turning into a murder court, with all the witnesses ever-ready to see blood on each other's hands.

It was a poor afternoon for catching the second half of sentences. If, on the other hand, one was solely interested in the first half of sentences it was a field day, with endless repeats, re-runs and re-wordings.

Dr John Reid (Labour, Motherwell North) rose to his feet in fury. "Just as the Secretary of State is prepared to do nothing to protect jobs in Dundee," he began. And this time it was for the Tory benches to whine and

wail. "Pathetic, pathetic, pathetic," they squealed, so much so that Dr Reid had to repeat his first half once more. "Just as the Secretary of State is prepared to do nothing..." Again he was interrupted.

Dr Reid advised the Members opposite to listen and they would understand what he had to say. This seemed a little over-optimistic for a doctor, rather as if he was prescribing cough mixture for a broken neck. "Pathetic, pathetic," his patients were resisting his treatment.

Whenever Scottish Questions are going badly, whenever it seems that relations between the parties have reached an all-time low, whenever the funeral bells are being tolled for Scottish Parliamentary Democracy, up stands Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, and matters instantly become worse.

Mr Fairbairn is like some bizarre prophet from one of the less reliable books of the Old Testament, a red-faced huffypuffer shaking his watch-chains at the woes of the world, swaying on his feet and begging retribution for one and all. Or perhaps he is less prophet, more locust. Certainly, he likes to leap to his feet when times are at their most gloomy, flustering his opinions in the faces of the bedraggled.

"There is not a single member who does not wish and pray, for Scotland and indeed for Great Britain..."

Looking like no one else alive, Mr Fairbairn favours speaking on behalf of the entire world. He warned that they were "on the brink of a cataclysmic catastrophe," and, so saying, his hands shot this way and that, his watch-chains swaying in the howling gales thereby created. As he spoke of negativity, turning his fingers outstretched in the air, as if waving to some unseen and awesome granny.

Reaching his climax, he removed his spectacles and, thrusting them hither and thither, begged for a debate "for the whole of Scotland and the whole of England". His spectacles slung in his hand, he flopped back in his seat, allowing the Members opposite to follow out a few more deafening silences.

Craig Brown

Hammond wins delay in TUC censure vote

Continued from page 1

Mr Hammond said the TUC could discipline one of its affiliates under rule 13 (c) only if the organization had disobeyed a direction to "discontinue such activities which are contrary to the declared principles of Congress" under 13 (b).

The electricians' breach of those "declared principles" was in accepting 20 applications from employees working for News International. Their memberships had subsequently been terminated and Mr Hammond had apologized.

Before the powers under rule 13 (c) could be exercised Mr Hammond said the general council would have to first point out what the new breaches of "declared principles" were. He said there were no new breaches.

Mr Hammond angrily accused his colleagues of "whipping up" the votes against him before he had a chance to put his case.

"That purpose was to mute out voice and to diminish our influence during the consideration of single-union so-called no-strike agreements."

TUC backs engineers' deal with Ford

Continued from page 1

"We cannot have jobs at any price. I do not support the TUC's advice and therefore I cannot recommend it to my members. Single-union agreements must be retained within the blue book agreement. Do we suddenly disregard an agreement that has been 40 years in existence?" he said. However, last night it became clear that Ford officials at the Dagenham plant had voted to support the deal against Mr Todd's advice.

Mr Bill Jordan and Mr Gavin Laird, the AEU president and general secretary, will this morning fly to Detroit

to tell company officials that there is now nothing stopping the deal going through except their own decision.

Mr Willis is determined to go with the leaders of the engineering union to "take the message of the trade union movement to Ford officials in Detroit". He said: "I will now be seeking an urgent meeting with the company with the intent of reversing its decision to cancel its proposed plant in Dundee."

Mr John Emmett, Ford's public affairs manager, significantly did not reiterate the company's decision to pull out

of Dundee. Instead he said: "We will have to wait and see what develops. I cannot give a reaction until we see what the union leaders have to offer."

The TUC last night called on the support of the Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the Scottish Development Agency, the Scottish TUC, Tayside regional council and Dundee district council for Mr Willis's last attempt to persuade Ford to build its plant in Dundee.

However, in the House of Commons, Mr Rifkind said he would use his best judgement as to whether Ford could be asked to reconsider. One of

the Minister's aides said Mr Rifkind was prepared to make representations if the transport union "clarified its opposition to the deal".

The Government is still looking for a "definite and unequivocal indication that all the unions are prepared to accept the single-union deal on which Ford based their original investment plans."

Mr Laird was confident that the TGWU would honour the agreement and "stand by the general council's decision". He said now that local transport union officials in Dagenham had voted to back the deal he was confident

Duke attacks human disregard for nature

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Duke of Edinburgh yesterday attacked what he called the arrogance of the human race in claiming to have "conquered" nature.

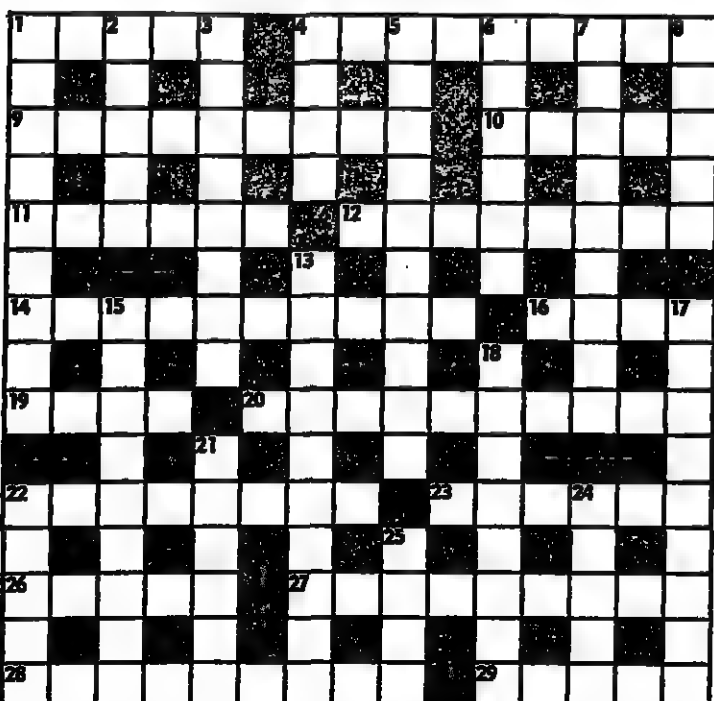
"There are certain figures of speech which are not just misleading in themselves, but also betray a particular attitude of mind," he said in an address to the Royal Society of Arts.

"The use of the word conquest seems to imply that man has somehow managed to put something under subjugation."

"In the sense that human conquerors have usually laid waste to the land of their defeated enemies, this claim might well be substantiated. However, I think there is little doubt that it is based on what are seen to be achievements in the promotion of human self-interest, with complete disregard for the interests of the rest of life on earth."

The Duke's comments were made less than 24 hours after his son, the Prince of Wales, had expressed grave concern over environmental issues.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,625



- ACROSS**
- Stone containing tin is limited (5).
 - As a precaution, get a reliable watch (9).
 - Match procedure requires alteration (9).
 - Climber needing a fixing on the way back (5).
 - Dress fastener that is doubly secure (3-3).
 - Join in? Ten possibly coming forward (8).
 - Be so kind as to take a card (4,1,5).
 - Page caught in vestibule affray (4).
 - End of sojourn in river valley (4).
 - Change name and return duty list to current producer (10).
 - Military formations ordered south to receive uniform (8).
 - Pass on motorway turning section (6).
 - Paint mixture is unsuitable (4).
 - Spots felines including one chasing duck (9).
 - Charlie, for instance, putting on an act? (9).
 - Hang Doctor Gibbon! (5).

- DOWN**
- Scored but withdrawn from match (9).
 - Member in drink — lots of it (5).
 - Very warm corner in river? No, just the reverse (8).
 - Well sheltered from mounted artillery (4).
 - Inexpensive shopping centre specialising in jumpers? (4,6).
 - Learning under State provision is more than sufficient (6).
 - Reduction in rank for cowardly soldiers in army rising (9).
 - Lacking intelligence about rocket head design (5).
 - Very comfortable as good footwear should be (4-6).
 - Provide justification for under five show (9).
 - Early warning of a street disaster (9).
 - Lively Harry met Diana (8).
 - Keep part of this piece (6).
 - Low character second rate and lacking backbone (5).
 - Bouquet from rising artist with love to mother (5).
 - Beetle avoids a black mark (4).

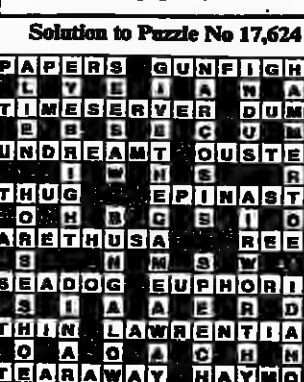
WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- MENSCH**
- An editorial puff
 - A decent chap
 - A brown-collar worker
- DEKE**
- To lure at ice hockey
 - An Armenian clergyman
 - A miniature dachshund
- INTER**
- Half time at football
 - An Italian sophomoric
 - A radio station
- SCAT**
- A knock
 - Animal droppings
 - Nonsense song

Answers on page 22, column 1



WEATHER

Cloudy and wet at first over Scotland and much of England with fog and heavy rain in places. Brighter showery weather over Northern Ireland, Wales and south-west England will spread quickly east to reach most parts of the mainland by late morning. It will become windy in the north-west with gales in exposed parts of Scotland. Further cloud and rain will affect parts of the south-west later. Outlook: More cloud and rain with snow over higher ground.

ABROAD

	C	F		C	F
Algeria	15	61	Malaysia	21	70
Algeria	15	61	Malaysia	21	70
Algeria	15	61	Malaysia	21	70
Algeria	15	61	Malaysia	21	70
Algeria	15	61	Malaysia	21	70
Algeria	15	61	Malaysia	21	70
Algeria	15	61	Malaysia	21	70
Algeria	15	61	Malaysia	21	70
Algeria	15	61	Malaysia	21	70
Algeria	15	61	Malaysia	21	70

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun	Rain	Wind	Temp
Scarborough	7.1	0.1	11	52
London	7.1	0.1	11	52
London	7.1	0.1	11	52
London	7.1	0.1	11	52
London	7.1	0.1	11	52
London	7.1	0.1	11	52
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London	7.1	0.1	11	52

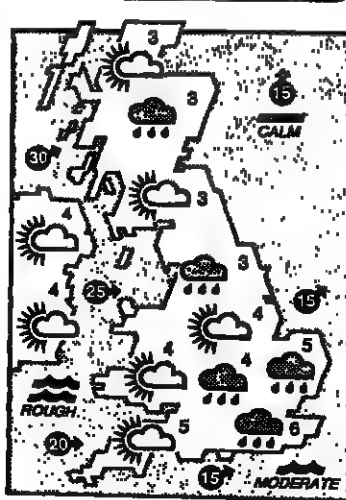
HIGH TIDES

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5.43	6.7	6.05	6.4
London Bridge	5.43	6.7	6.05	6.4
London Bridge	5.43	6.7	6.05	6.4
London Bridge	5.43	6.7	6.05	6.4
London Bridge	5.43	6.7	6.05	6.4
London Bridge	5.43	6.7	6.05	6.4
London Bridge	5.43	6.7	6.05	6.4
London Bridge	5.43	6.7	6.05	6.4
London Bridge	5.43	6.7	6.05	6.4
London Bridge	5.43	6.7	6.05	6.4

THE POUND

	Bank	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	22.50	21.50	22.50
Australia \$	22.50	21.50	22.50
Australia \$	22.50	21.50	22.50
Australia \$	22.50	21.50	22.50
Australia \$	22.50	21.50	22.50
Australia \$	22.50	21.50	22.50
Australia \$	22.50	21.50	22.50
Australia \$	22.50	21.50	22.50
Australia \$	22.50	21.50	22.50
Australia \$	22.50	21.50	22.50

AM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 13C (51F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 7C (45F) Humidity: 65% Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 4.7 in. Bar: mean sea level, 1013.9 mbars, rising. 1,000 mbars=29.93 in.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 6 pm, 10C (50F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F) Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.32 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 3.2 hr.

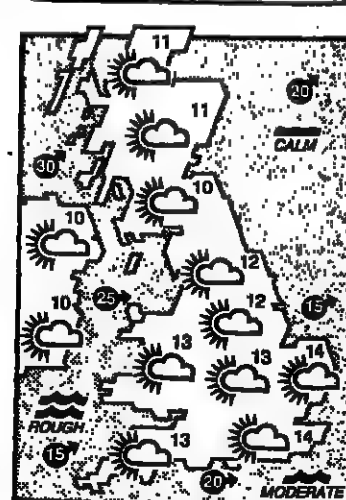
HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Lowestoft, Suffolk, 15C (59F); lowest day temp: Lowestoft, Suffolk, 5C (41F) Highest night temp: Lowestoft, Suffolk, 10C (50F); lowest night temp: Lowestoft, Suffolk, 5C (41F)

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 6.51 pm to 5.22 am
Edinburgh 7.05 pm to 5.22 am
Manchester 7.12 pm to 5.44 am

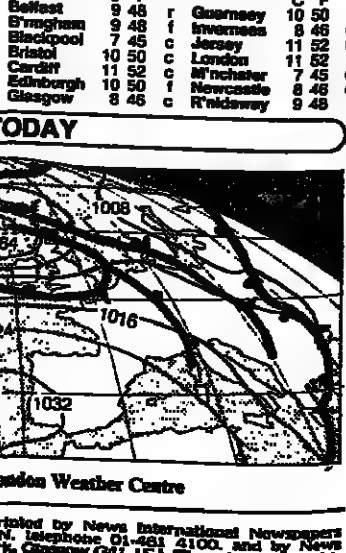
PM



YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

NOON TODAY



INTEREST RATE

London 6.51 pm to 5.22 am
Edinburgh 7.05 pm to 5.22 am
Manchester 7.12 pm to 5.44 am

CURRENCY

London 6.51 pm to 5.22 am
Edinburgh 7.05 pm to 5.22 am
Manchester 7.12 pm to 5.44 am

GOLD

London 6.51 pm to 5.22 am
Edinburgh 7.05 pm to 5.22 am
Manchester 7.12 pm to 5.44 am

NORTH SEA

London 6.51 pm to 5.22 am
Edinburgh 7.05 pm to 5.22 am
Manchester 7.12 pm to 5.44 am

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share

1459.8 (-3.4)

FT-SE 100

1832.2 (-3.2)

Bargains

30848 (31413)

USM (Datastream)

151.66 (-0.51)

THE POUND

US dollar

1.8365 (+0.0049)

W German mark

3.1046 (+0.0075)

Trade-weighted

77.3 (+0.2)

Profit dips at Charles Barker

Charles Barker, the advertising and public relations group, blames exceptional reorganization costs of £942,000 and losses of £563,000 on discontinued operations for its 25.6 per cent profit setback in the year ended December 31.

Pretax profits fell from £3.43 million to £2.55 million through turnover rose from £90.4 million to £105.8 million. Trading profits on continuing operations and before exceptional items were 29 per cent higher at £4.25 million.

Net earnings were 6p (10.3p) a share. A final dividend of 2.1p makes a year's payment of 3.2p (3p). The shares dipped to 111p, before partly recovering to 115p - a 3p setback.

Hepworth up

Hepworth Ceramic reports a near 50 per cent leap in pretax profits in 1987, from £41.04 million to £60.23 million. Earnings per share are up from 17.19p to 21.34p and a 6.3p final dividend makes 9.5p for the year against 8.28p last time.

Tempos, page 26

Sunleigh rises

Pretax profits at Sunleigh Electronics, the USM-quoted electrical and electronics manufacturer, jumped 68 per cent to £1.72 million last year on turnover up 39 per cent at £14 million. Earnings per share are up 45 per cent to 2.86p, and the dividend rises by 30 per cent to 0.3625p.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2061.17 (-4.98)
Dow Jones	2061.17 (-4.98)
Nikkei Average	25895.23 (+52.48)
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	2581.95 (-32.98)
Amsterdam Gen	251.7 (+1.4)
Sydney AO	1427.0 (+7.3)
Frankfurt	
Commerzbank	1447.5 (+10.8)
Brussels	
General	4873.2 (+10.8)
Paris CAC	283.1 (-0.1)
Zurich S&K Gen	450.8 (+2.8)
London	
FT-A All-Share	1441.71 (-2.38)
FT-300	1035.48 (-3.4)
FT-Gold Mines	244.9 (-4.1)
FT-Fixed Interest	87.72 (+0.2)
FT-Govt Secs	90.36 (+0.08)
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Closing prices	Page 33

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER:	
Silkstone	315p (+20p)
AB Elect	398p (+14p)
Pearson	382.5p (+15p)
Fish Design	382p (+15p)
Burns Anderson	137.75p (+10p)
Parish	123.5p (+10p)
P & O Gold	616p (+12p)
Consolidated	940p (+22p)
H MacKay	295p (+12p)
High-Point	317.5p (+10p)
Compass	289.5p (+10p)
Bradford	650p (+10p)
Manganese Bronze	252.5p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Barratt Devs	198.5p (-17p)
Rock Shop	538p (-15p)
WPP	513p (-15p)
Trinity Intl	710p (-18p)
Federated Housing	288p (-15p)
Anglia Sec	427.5p (-12p)
Decca	175p (-10p)
Closing prices	

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	8 1/8%
3-month interbank	8 1/8% - 8 3/4%
3-month eligible bills	8 1/8% - 8 3/4%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	8 1/8%
Federal Funds	8 1/8%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.84 - 5.89%
30-year bonds	10 1/2 - 10 1/4%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£ \$1.8365	\$ £0.5445
£ DM1.046	DM £0.5130
£ Sfr2.5683	Sfr £0.3990
£ FF10.3625	FF £0.1485
£ Yen127.15	Yen £0.0078
£ Index	83.8
ECU 20.66809	SDR 20.74727

GOLD

London Fixing	AM \$450.00 pm \$449.50
close \$451.00-451.50	(£245.25-245.75)
New York	
Comex \$452.10-452.60	

NORTH SEA OIL

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Abbey plans to go public

Building society seeks approval for conversion

By Vivien Goldsmith

The Abbey National is the first building society to announce definite plans to convert from a mutual building society to a public company.

No decision has yet been taken on whether there will be a money-raising exercise through a rights issue, but Abbey will transfer shares to its existing "owners", the 4 million members, rather than sell to the public as was done in the privatization of the Trustee Savings Bank.

Unlike the TSB, where there was doubt over the ownership of the group, the Building Societies Act makes clear that Britain's second largest building society with assets of £27 billion is owned by its 4 million members.

Those adult members with more than £100 in their accounts stand to emerge as the initial shareholders of the new company. Under the draft regulations, those under 18 or with less than £100 in their accounts on the named day will be entitled to a cash handout.

But first, the building society must obtain permission from investors and borrowers to go ahead with the float. This will be a massive undertaking. It needs to muster votes from 20 per cent of the 4 million investors eligible to vote - those over 18 and with more than £100 in their accounts. Then 75 per cent of those voting will have to vote 'yes'.

A separate ballot of the Abbey's 1.5 million borrowers will have to take place with at least half voting.

The Abbey wants to convert from a building society owned by its members to release itself from the constraints of the Building Societies Act.

Although the terms of the Act were altered at the end of last year to ease the restrictions, the Abbey still believes it can operate more freely outside the building society framework. This would involve technically becoming a

Comment 27

bank and operating under Bank of England control.

But Sir Campbell Adamson, chairman of the Abbey National, said yesterday: "We will not call ourselves a bank. We do not want to be a bank anymore than Marks and Spencer wants to be a bank."

He emphasized that conversion is not an end in itself, but a means to an end - making the organization more competitive.

There is no timetable for conversion as the Building



Sir Campbell Adamson: "We do not want to be a bank"

Societies Commission has not yet published the final version of the terms under which building societies will be able to convert. They are expected soon. But however swiftly these final rules are published and brought into force via a statutory instrument, it will probably be at least a year before Abbey National Plc appears at the Stock Exchange.

Advertising agencies will be pitching strongly for the new wave of Abbey advertising. At present, the Abbey has three agencies, Saatchi & Saatchi, Lonsdale, and McCormick Publicis which gave the Abbey trendy Jonathan Ross, the man who is credited with making the suit fashionable.

The Abbey currently spends £27 million a year on advertising and this can be expected to rise as the float approaches.

As news of the float was kept a secret, no advertising "beauty parades" have yet been held. But it is likely, says the Abbey, that it will look beyond its current trio of agencies for advertising ideas.

The Abbey made its announcement while reporting record annual results with pretax profits up by 30 per cent to £353 million. The return on assets increased from 80p to 90p per £100, and reserves increased from £928 million to £1,133 million, giving a reserve ratio of 4.29 per cent.

Competition in the mortgage market was fierce and loans to borrowers slipped back from £6.2 billion in 1986 to £6.1 billion last year.

BAT beats forecasts

By Alison Eadie

BAT Industries, the tobacco, paper, retail and financial services group, beat market expectations by making pretax profits of £1.39 billion in 1987, an increase of just £1 million.

Turnover fell 10 per cent to £17.20 billion, but at constant exchange rates continuing businesses showed growth of 3 per cent.

A 34 per cent rise in investment income to £201 million, largely because of high interest rates in Brazil, and a 15 per cent drop in interest paid, due to strong cash flow and asset disposals, wiped out the 6 per cent fall in operating profit.

Tobacco's operating profits

fell 5 per cent to £722 million, but were 9 per cent higher excluding currency changes. The final quarter incurred heavy marketing expenses for Capri and Kool brands in the US and promotion in Japan, where BAT now has a 27 per cent share of imports.

Argos in Britain was the star performer for retailing, with trading profit 33 per cent higher at £47 million.

In the US, the downturn in consumer confidence dented the fourth quarter. Saks Fifth Avenue raised turnover in the year by 5 per cent, but made lower profits because of margin pressure.

Financial services contributed

profit against £282 million, with Eagle Star's strong premium growth and improved underwriting results offset by the effect of the stock market crash on investments and a £16 million loss, after reinsurance, from the hurricane.

Eagle Star made profits of £146 million against £201 million, but Allied Dunbar, Britain's largest unit linked life assurance and unit trust group, raised profits to £71 million from £62 million.

The paper division was hurt by higher pulp prices and trading profits fell to £209 million from £217 million.

BAT raised its total dividend by 18 per cent to 16.9p.

Tempos, page 26

More North Sea oil areas on offer

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Energy Secretary, is expected to unveil today the latest details of the new areas of the North Sea which are to be opened for oil exploration.

Companies will be given details of the acreage which will be put on offer under the Government's 11th round of offshore licensing and which the Government hopes will lead to a renewed flood of interest in exploring in the area.

At present, drilling rig rates have been depressed because of the slump in the world oil price and many companies have been waiting for new acreage to come on to the market so that exploration can take place.

The recent spate of takeover interest in North Sea independents has been prompted by a

drying up of the acreage available for future drilling and the new round is likely to be oversubscribed.

Mr Peter Morrison, the Energy Minister responsible for oil, has been working behind the scenes to accelerate the pace of North Sea developments and to create job opportunities in the offshore construction yards.

He and Mr Parkinson will give details of the new licences available in the Commons today.

Oil prices rose yesterday in the wake of an announcement by Opec that it is, after all, to call an emergency meeting of its key monitoring committee to review output quotas.

North Sea oil prices moved up by 35 cents to \$15.40 a barrel immediately.

Woolworth £147m with a warning

By Colin Campbell

Woolworth Holdings, the retail chain embracing Comet, Superdrug, B&Q and the traditional Woolworths outlets, yesterday gave a warning of tougher conditions ahead in the retail sector which would separate winners and losers.

But Mr Geoffrey Mulcahy, the chief executive, under whose direction group profits have in five years risen 24 times, yesterday forecast that Woolworth Holdings would be "among the winners".

The group ended its 1987-88 financial year with pretax profits up from £115.3 million to £147.2 million on a turnover that rose by 18.8 per cent to £2.17 billion.

Woolworth, whose name was strongly woven into the 1987 bid battle for Storehouse, yesterday admitted that it had been a "modest" holder of

Not so 'bootiful' £1m setback



Grain price problems come home to roost: Mr Bernard Matthews on the production line (Photograph: Nick Rogers)

Profits fall at Bernard Matthews

By Alison Eadie

Bernard Matthews, the Norfolk turkey and red meat producer, suffered a £1 million decline in pretax profits, to £14.1 million, in the 53 weeks to January 3. Turnover was marginally lower, at £136 million.

The company had forecast the decline last December. Adverse weather in the first half and unexpectedly high grain prices in the second impaired profitability, the company said. However, grain prices have fallen significantly since the year-end.

Turkey meat sales showed marginal growth last year, but red meat sales were depressed in the face of severe price competition from commodity meats, particularly pork.

During the first months of this year, a more aggressive marketing strategy has resulted in record sales of added value turkey products. The company intends to extend the strategy to its red meat products, where sales have continued to be disappointing.

It is also considering withdrawing from pet food and other lines where it is difficult to add value. The total dividend was unchanged at 1.75p.

Young talks fail to avert EEC inquiry into Rover merger

From Richard Owen, Brussels

The European Commission is to press ahead with an investigation into the proposed British Aerospace-Rover Group merger, despite a personal mission to Brussels yesterday by Lord Young, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

The Commission could block the deal if it judges that the Government's proposal for writing off Rover's debts and accumulated losses amounts to an illegal state subsidy which distorts competition.

If the deal went ahead in the face of Commission objections, Britain would be taken to the European Court, officials said.

Lord Young insisted after an hour-long meeting with Mr Peter Sutherland, the EEC Commissioner for Competition Policy, that he had "no reason to be anything other than confident" that the merger would succeed. But he declined to put a figure on Rover's debts and losses, estimated by industry sources to

be between £2 billion and £3 billion.

Officials said Lord Young had explained to Mr Sutherland that the Government aimed to privatize the Rover Group and remove government involvement from the vehicle industry in Britain altogether.

In reply Mr Sutherland said the Commission's responsibility was to ensure that free competition prevailed in the EEC, and it would therefore open investigating procedures into the merger.

Lord Young said the Government had already provided information to Brussels, and he had expanded on this. But some data would only emerge from the negotiations between Rover and British Aerospace. There would clearly be "some restructuring of the balance sheet at Rover", Lord Young added.

British officials said Lord Young had urged the Commission to act swiftly in its investigation in view of the deadline for the Rover-BAE talks at the end of next month.

Pound goes above DM3.10

By David Smith

The pound rose strongly, to above DM3.10, yesterday, without significant action by the Bank of England to hold it down. Sterling climbed above DM3.11 at one stage, before closing at DM3.1055.

There were unconfirmed reports of Bank intervention to slow the pound's rise, but many dealers were sceptical about this.

The official policy on the exchange rate now appears to be to "keep the markets guessing," and not to allow specific ceilings or floors to be determined by the authorities.

The pound's rise - it also gained 55 points against the dollar, to \$1.8365 - produced a softening of money market rates. Discount houses were reluctant to part with paper at the Bank's existing dealing rates.

But action to push base rates down is not expected, unless sterling rises further and until after tomorrow's trade figures for February, which are expected to show a narrowing of the current account deficit from the £900 million recorded in January.

Comment, page 27

British management style under attack

WPP set to sue US defectors

By Rosemary Unsworth

WPP, the British marketing services group, yesterday attempted to stop the haemorrhage caused by the departure of 15 senior executives from its US subsidiary to form a new agency by taking legal action against some of them.

The action follows the resignations of 10 managers from Lord Geller, Federico, Einstein on Tuesday after six leading executives decided at the end of last week to form the new agency, Lord, Einstein, O'Neill and Partners. This is to be backed by Young & Rubicam, the advertising agency, with a minority 40 per cent stake.

WPP, which is run by Mr Martin Sorrell, who was formerly with Saatchi and Saatchi, hit back yesterday by announcing that it was taking action in the New York Supreme Court against the group and the newly-formed agency.

The complaint against the former

employees is that they have breached their fiduciary duty as directors, officers and employees to take away the business of Lord, Geller, Federico, Einstein.

WPP, which acquired Lord, Geller last year during its \$556 million (£302.50 million) acquisition of JWT, the US advertising group, said in a statement:

"There is evidence that over an extended period prior to their resignation, the former management committee of LGFE Inc initiated a concerted and pre-mediated conspiracy to sabotage the business of LGFE."

"The conduct that the defendants have followed appears to pursue a very closely co-ordinated plan among the six of them, together with legal counsel and Young & Rubicam, to damage the business intentionally in order to force WPP to sell LGFE to the management group and their co-conspirators at favourable pricing."

The legal move, which was described

by one London analyst as "shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted" may be seen as a technique to try and deter any more clients joining the new agency. It is believed that one client, New York's WNBC-TV, will announce this week that it will go with the departees and the prestigious New Yorker magazine has also decided to go to the new agency.

LGFE's main client, however, is IBM, the computers group, which represents about 45 per cent of the business which last year made \$4 million on revenues of \$30 million. Billings were about \$200 million.

If IBM decides to leave, then Mr Sorrell's management of the US agency will certainly be called into question. He was already under attack by his American employees for his style as chief executive.

WPP shares fell 15p to 514p on the London stock market yesterday.

DIAMOND SERVICE

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08.15	10.15	08.30	08.30	
11.00	13.00	11.30	11.30	
12.15	14.15	13.30	13.30	
14.15	16.15	15.30	15.30	
16.15	18.15	17.30	17.30	
18.15	20.15	19.30	19.30	
20.15	22.15	21.00	21.00	



THE MOST WEEKDAY FLIGHTS BETWEEN HEATHROW AND AMSTERDAM.

BRITISH MIDLAND

Profits at NEI leap to £32m

By Alison Eadie
Northern Engineering Industries emerged from its restructuring with pretax profits in the year to the end of December 38 per cent higher at £32.2 million. Turnover fell to £804.6 million from £937.5 million. The total dividend was unchanged at 5.25p.

The absence of discontinued loss-makers flattered the profits figure by £5.1 million, and reduced turnover by £45.4 million. Lower turnover also reflected the final shipments on large power contracts placed in previous years.

Currency movements trimmed £8 million from turnover and £600,000 from profits. Attributable profits were £14.3 million, after a £400,000 extraordinary credit for property disposals, against a loss of £59.9 million, following £69.3 million of extraordinary rationalization costs.

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BAT rises above exchange rate problems

The pencilling-down two months ago of profit estimates for BAT Industries over fears of investment losses at Eagle Star turned out to be overdone. BAT managed to add £1 million to profits, despite a £31.6 million capital depreciation at Eagle Star which included realized gains of £68.4 million, and despite £192 million knocked off profits by adverse currency movements.

The 1 per cent drop in earnings per share to 52.8p has not dented company confidence, as evidenced by the generous 18 per cent rise in the dividend. The confidence is understandable after a cursory look at the balance sheet.

Net interest fell from £88 million to £1 million after a net cash inflow of £770 million. Taking cash balances into account, gearing nudged under 10 per cent for the first time since 1969, which was before the diversification away from tobacco started.

BAT is clearly in very strong financial shape and has no worries about its ability to field any questions the American insurance regulators throw at it regarding its \$4.5 billion bid for Farmers. Even

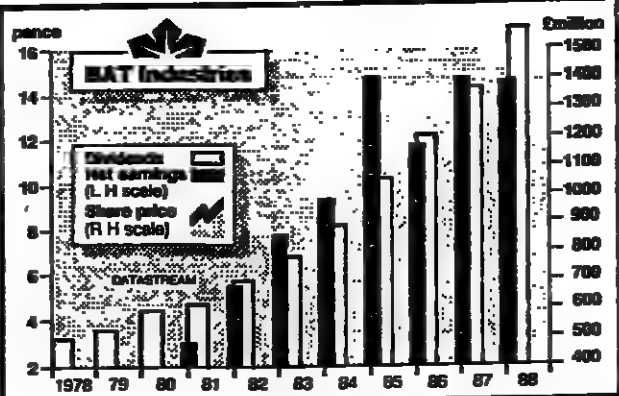
such a large acquisition would take gearing up to just short of 70 per cent and the powerful cash flow would bring it down again quite smartly.

The acquisition would also have the benefit of reducing BAT's dependence on tobacco to about 40 per cent of profits from 50 per cent. The strong tobacco content in BAT is still the main reason that the shares, up 9p at 464p yesterday, are at a discount to the market of about 35 per cent.

With BZW's profits estimate for the current year unchanged at £1.59 billion, the prospective p/e ratio is a mere 7.4.

BAT showed its customary reticence in talking about trading prospects, but it did say there had been some recovery in US consumer confidence, after the downturn in the final quarter last year, which should benefit the retail division.

Tobacco should continue to build on its successful push into Japan, although growth in sales is expected to slow. BAT lost tobacco market share in the US last year to 11 per cent from 11.7 per cent and is keen to try to recoup it.



In financial services Eagle Star and Allied Dunbar are looking towards Europe with 1992 in their sights. Italy and West Germany are seen as the main targets.

The prospective yield is 5.5 per cent and the shares look good value.

Woolworth

Woolworth Holdings, once the ugly duckling of the High Street, is turning more attractive by the year.

Even though the investment debate continues about how to

regard property items in coming to an honest assessment of how the business performed, the group's property portfolio, valued at £800 million, equivalent to two-thirds of the market capitalization, is clearly something not to be ignored.

The group advertises a pre-tax profit outcome of £147.2 million compared with £115.3 million. Purists would subtract £6.4 million from the latest figures, and £6.2 million from the previous results, because of realization profits. The comparative figures

thus came to £140.8 million for the year ended January 30 against £135 million.

The ultra-conservative might additionally take out £5.2 million associated with bringing Superdrug under its wing and forming part of a netted off £29.8 million exceptional item.

However, focusing on the fundamental business, there can be no carp about how the individual divisions performed.

Woolworths saw operating profits 17 per cent higher on a 10 per cent reduction in space. Margins at B&Q rose from 8.8 per cent to 9.4 per cent, and actually rose by a higher percentage advance after adjusting for a £2.5 million non-recurring item.

Comer, despite a tough year within the electrical market, still gained market share, and Superdrug brought in £13 million for a nine-month period, and will be making a proportionally greater contribution this year.

The shares fell 7p to 287p as analysts pulled and tagged at the property items. But appreciation that Wool-

worth is well placed to meet competition, and that a further organic profits advance is in store (the range is currently wide between £170 million and £185 million, putting the shares on a multiple around 10.5), presents a buying opportunity which investors should seize.

Hepworth Ceramic

Sinclair Thomson won his spurs running TT's Glow-worm and Parkray heating operations. He is still running them, but these days they are part of Hepworth Ceramic, where Mr Thomson took over as chief executive in 1986.

It took him just a few months to prise them away from TT for £63.5 million last year, but already they are helping to transform Hepworth's profile and performance.

Their eight-month contribution to 1987 pretax profits of £60.23 million was £8.68 million, about half the 47 per cent overall profit increase.

Hepworth's achievement has, however, been threefold. Besides the progress made with the former TT businesses, it has unloaded its less profitable American operations and, thanks to better management and controls, squeezed a 10 per cent improvement out of its traditional claypipe operations.

Hepworth has some 85 per cent of the British claypipe market and leans heavily on its for cash flow, but it now represents only 40 per cent of turnover, against 60 per cent two years ago and will decrease further.

Since Henderson is unlikely to more than wash its face this year, the group looks set for, say, £70 million for the full year, ending the shares at 347p with a p/e multiple of a shade above 10.

Given the continuing metamorphosis from an ex-growth, high-volume business into more dynamic, higher added value pastures—how long will Ceramic remain in the title?—they cannot be said to be dear, particularly if uncertainty over a possible rights issue is removed.

STOCK MARKET

Equities dip on low turnover as gilts strengthen

Further gains by the pound against the mark and another disappointing start to trading on Wall Street provided the London stock market with another dull backdrop as investors stood rooted on the sidelines.

The equity market remained friendless and share prices were left up to their own devices for much of the day. The only break in the monotonous routine for dealers was another long list of trading results which provided some brief respite. But turnover was again low with just 365 million shares traded. By 4 pm, the FT-SE 100 index was down by 3.1 points at 1,823.3 while the narrower FT index of 30 shares lost 3.6 points at 1,459.6.

But the stronger pound was good news for gilts which scored gains of up to 1/8, hoping for another early cut in interest rates.

Blue Arrow, the world's biggest employment agency

headed by Mr Tony Berry, lost an early lead to finish 2p easier at 121p. But that should not deter people such as Mr Andrew Holland, an analyst at County NatWest and the group's biggest fan. He has just published a 23-page review of the company, claiming there are still "huge benefits" to be unlocked from last year's acquisition of Manpower.

Full-year figures, announced recently, were overshadowed by the shock resignation of Mr Christopher Castleman after just a few months as chief executive. They showed pretax profits surging from £8.71 million to £29.08 million, helped by just one month's contribution from Manpower.

Mr Berry remains jubilant about the Manpower acquisition. He says: "It's turned out better than even our wildest dreams. Even the Brook Street Bureau deal fades by comparison."

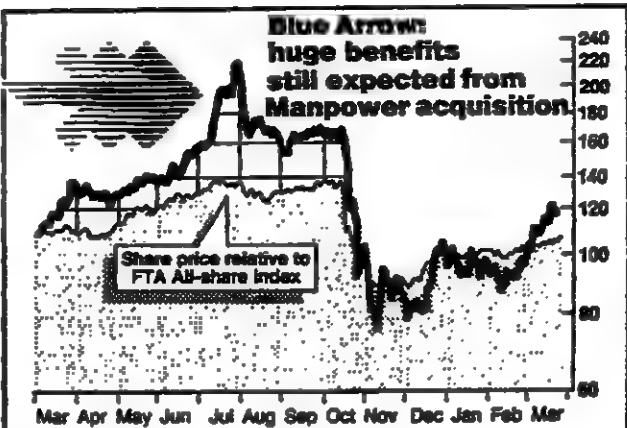
With Manpower under its

belt for a whole year, Mr Holland expects Blue Arrow's profits for the current year to stretch to £100 million with earnings a share rising from 8.7p to 11.3p. Estimates were as high as £125 million, but the weaker dollar has taken its toll on Blue Arrow the same as everyone else.

Mr Berry stresses that 60 per cent of the group's profits are still earned outside the US.

Even before the acquisition the Manpower management had put into play strategies that should ensure that the group maintains its leading position, improves margins and its market share.

This has already been reflected in the Blue Arrow share price which has consolidated its position above the 100p level. Dealers claim that there has been strong support for the shares from across the Atlantic ahead of next month's American Depository Receipts launch. Before the



crash, they were trading at about the 172p level.

Mr Holland says that further short-term gains may be limited but he urges clients to buy the shares on the first signs of weakness. He rates Blue Arrow as a good, longer term investment.

Securix Group, the London security, industrial cleaning and services group,

advanced by 2p to 203p following the group's annual meeting. Mr Alan Baldwin, the chairman, told shareholders that substantial new business had been won. In January, the group reported an increase in pretax profits from £1 million to £1.5 million.

The chairman said: "Our capacity for organic growth

continues unabated and we are looking forward to another exciting, expansive and high successful year."

Howden Group, which specializes in the design and manufacture of air, fluid and gas handling equipment, slipped by 1p to 125p. The word is that the group is about to be awarded a big contract from the Central Electricity Generating Board to build a wind-powered generating farm. The deal is expected to be worth £30 million and the CEGB says that the potential market in Britain for wind-powered generators is more than £1 billion.

Evered Holdings, which has just appointed James Capel as its broker, moved against the trend with a rise of 7p to 128p. Dealers reported the appearance of several institutional buyers and claim that Evered is now regarded as a building products company. Recent bumper figures from rivals Rugby and Hepworth Ceramic could see the Evered

shares re-rated shortly.

Matthew Hall, the engineering designer and contractor, also stood out with a rise of 8p, to 148p—making a two-day lead of 15p—reviving bid talk. BICC was once thought to have given the company a look but decided against such a move. Now Matthew Hall is being linked to Costain, the construction group where Trafalgar House recently increased its holding to 6.8 per cent. Costain ended the day 5p lower at 330p.

Stakis, the hotel and casino operator, was another firm market, climbing 6p to 102p, on growing hopes of a bid.

Still waiting for news of a bid, Rank's Horrie McDougall advanced by 6p to 329p. Goodman Fielder, the Australian conglomerate, already owns almost 30 per cent of the shares and dealers are convinced that it will, at some stage, bid for the rest.

Michael Clark

HE'S GOT ALL THE DATA HE NEEDS. BUT HAS HE THE INTELLIGENCE TO USE IT?

He's working with a typical computer system.

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Framl
new o

Cash call
for £54m
at Tootal

Schroders
dollar profits

Watching
money go
Natwest

Paper profits

Framlington 'searching for new owner or big investor'

The majority directors of the Framlington Group disclosed yesterday that they had been actively looking for a big new investor, or a new owner, since February at least.

Mr John Craven's Phoenix Securities had then been commissioned to find a new partner for Framlington, to replace CCF, the French bank, which had told Framlington it would eventually want to sell its 28 per cent shareholding.

The board, under Mr Bill Stuttaford, the chairman, and Mr Tim Miller, the managing director, said it could not recommend the £66 million bid made by Throgmorton Trust on Monday, but did not condemn it outright.

In a statement drawn up after Tuesday's board meeting, shareholders were urged

to do nothing, while talks continue with the handful of serious suitors to have emerged from the Phoenix exercise. Mr Miller acknowledged that the only alternative to the Throgmorton bid would be a full bid from another party.

Framlington shares rose from 193p to 197p, with a block changing hands at 200p.

Mr Paul Loach, one of three directors of both Throgmorton and Framlington who did not participate, said he was delighted that the other directors had not rejected the offer outright.

But it emerged during the day that the two sides of the Framlington board had been deeply split for nearly a year, and that both sides see the possible rival bids as a means

of resolving apparently irreconcilable differences over the way Framlington has been run and how it should develop.

The majority Framlington directors regard the Throgmorton bid as hostile, even though a Framlington subsidiary, bought from Throgmorton in 1986, manages the investment trust.

Mr Miller said there was "an enormous cultural gap" between the ways the Framlington and Throgmorton camps operate.

He said that Mr Stuttaford had built up Framlington by a highly decentralized approach, in which fund managers operated independently and were responsible for the performance of the trusts they managed. Throgmorton, on

the other hand, favoured a more centralized approach, in which strategic decisions were taken by committees.

Mr Loach said that if demoralization meant Framlington was under-managed, he would agree.

Mr Miller said: "The Throgmorton chaps think their method is the only one to operate. But I do not think they have anything at all to add to Framlington as a unit trust management group."

He said Framlington operated on a principle of low charges and low management expenses.

But Mr Loach said it was hard to justify a principle of depriving shareholders of money that ought to be theirs by keeping charges below the industry average.

Cash call for £54m at Tootal

By Michael Tate

Tootal, the textiles group, is to raise £54 million via a rights issue to finance the second phase of its restructuring programme.

The cash-raising exercise will pay for the minority 49.9 per cent stake in Lantor International, the special materials group, and new acquisitions in the industrial threads and office supplies fields.

Mr Geoffrey Maddrell, the chief executive of Tootal, has extensively reorganized the company which now operates as a marketing-led textiles group around the world and sources an increasing amount of its materials in the Far East.

Profits for the year to end-January rose to £0.3 million against £0.2 million, on sales up from £408 million to £504 million. Earnings per share work out at 11.3p, against 10.4p, and the final 2.8p dividend lifts the total from 4.25p to 4.5p. The rights issue offers shareholders one new share for every four held at 98p each.

Tootal is buying the rest of Lantor, which manufactures anti-gas fabrics and special military materials, from its partner West Point-Perrell.

It is paying £16.7 million down and up to £4.4 million more over three years depending on profits. A second joint venture project has been negotiated in China.

Barratt hoists profits to £17m at half time

By Cliff Feltham

The backlash of bad publicity surrounding timesharing properties cost Barratt Developments, Britain's biggest housebuilder, £1.5 million in the first half of this year.

Sir Lawrie Barratt, the chairman, yesterday said pre-tax profits advanced from £12.5 million to £17.2 million - marred only by timeshare worries. Barratt operates six timeshare centres in Britain and three in Spain.

"The timesharing industry suffered during the period from adverse media comment levelled mainly at fringe operators. As Europe's largest leisure property company, our subsidiary was inevitably affected and suffered a loss."

"Action is being taken within the industry to redress the situation. Within the company we are working to im-



Sir Lawrie: timeshare worry prove still further our product, which is already recognized to be of superior quality," he added.

Barratt hopes to break even on timeshare by the end of the year, having made £4 million out of the business last time. Barratt's switch away from

first-time buyers continued, with sales in this area down from a peak of 75 per cent to 30 per cent. The move was reflected in a sharp increase in the average price of a Barratt home - up from £40,000 to £50,800. At the top end, the company is building homes in fashionable parts of London for £450,000.

But a shortage of building land remains a problem. In the South-east the company is having to pay £750,000 an acre although it believes the house price spiral in the South is starting to ease off.

Overall, Sir Lawrie says the housebuilding side made good progress although Scotland and parts of the North of England continue to be difficult.

Shareholders collect a half-time dividend of 2.79p a share, up from 2.54p. The shares fell 17p to 199p.

European growth 'slower'

By David Smith

Economics Correspondent

The economies of both Western and Eastern Europe have been through a stagnant phase, with short-term recovery prospects better in the East than in the West, according to a United Nations report published today.

The *Economic Survey of Europe 1987-88*, published by the UN's Economic Commission for Europe, in Geneva, says that growth behind the Iron Curtain slowed sharply last year.

The increase in net material

product - the centrally planned equivalent of gross domestic product - in these economies slowed to 3.2 per cent last year, from 4.6 per cent in 1986. In the Soviet Union, growth slowed from 4.1 to 2.3 per cent.

Last year's slowdown was caused by weak export demand, smaller-than-expected efficiency gains and deteriorating terms of trade in Western markets.

However, an acceleration of growth rates in the Eastern bloc is expected this year, and the UN expects growth in the

3-4 per cent range.

In Western Europe, by contrast, the UN expects a further slowdown in activity this year, noting that growth in Britain far exceeded that of the other big European economies last year. Overall growth for Western Europe will be in the 1.5 to 2 per cent range, compared with 2.3 per cent last year.

Japan's long-term capital outflows have passed their peak and overall international investment from Japan will decline, the *Amex Bank Review*, also published yesterday, says.

Barker & Dobson beats forecast

Barker & Dobson, the Budget supermarket group, beat its forecast by £500,000 when it made pre-tax profits in the year to December 26 of £13.5 million against just £4.2 million in the previous year. The figure included £1.9 million of property profits.

B&D made its forecast during the unsuccessful £2 billion bid for Dec Corporation, the Gateway supermarkets group. The bid was charged as an extraordinary cost of £2.45 million.

The fruits of the Budgets acquisition are beginning to come through, the company said. The total dividend was 3.5p against 1p previously.

SAS-TNT deal
SAS, the Scandinavian airline, has sold its express parcels subsidiary, Air De Cologne, to TNT Iglo, the European express freight subsidiary of Australian-based TNT Limited for an undisclosed price.

Meggitt up 41%

Meggitt Holdings, the aerospace and instrumentation group, raised pre-tax profits by 41 per cent last year to £16.3 million. Earnings a share went up by 29 per cent to 9.33p. The total dividend is raised by 28.6 per cent to 2.25p. Sales at £167 million were lower, reflecting disposals.

Rentokil higher

Rentokil Group, the country's largest pest control contractor, reports a 20.2 per cent advance in pre-tax profits to £37.6 million for 1987 and is forecasting another good year ahead. Turnover rose from £166.9 million to £174 million. The final dividend is being raised from 1.775p to 2.075p a share, making 3.275p (2.8p).

25% stake bought

Peachey Property Corporation moved closer to victory in its £58 million bid for rival Estates Property Investment Company (Epic) yesterday when it bought a crucial 25 per cent holding to lift its stake to 33.1 per cent. But Epic was still holding out for a white knight and said later that it had reached an advanced stage of discussions with another company willing to offer more than the 260p a share bid from Peachey.

£6.6m purchase

Bruce's Brewery, which runs the chain of Firkin public houses in London, specialising in home-made brews such as Dogbolter and Froggopher, has been bought for £6.6 million by Midsummer Leisure, the public houses, snooker club and discotheque group.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Abbey takes primrose path to nowhere

The question that Abbey National and all the other building societies planning to follow Abbey down the primrose path to a stock market listing should ask themselves is: will flotation make us better at what we do? The answer, if they are honest, will be, at best, "maybe."

The building societies have lost out in their traditional business of lending money to buy houses. As the competition has mounted, from banks, from new specialist financial institutions such as the Mortgage Corporation, from insurance companies and even merchant banks, the societies have ceded market share from over 90 per cent to under 50 per cent.

Mortgages from other forms of lender have frequently been cheaper, quicker, more flexible and above all heavily marketed to a public which is obliged to commit an ever-increasing proportion of its income to a mortgage in order to be reasonably housed. While the building societies insist on "granting" mortgages, other forms of lender have been selling them.

The building societies have been accused of being financial dinosaurs, locked into a Socialist past rather than the capitalist present, and there are many former building society directors who will be spinning in their graves at the thought of the societies joining the stock market. But they are, under their current status, unable to raise funds as cheaply as their competitors from the hard-nosed banking business. From the

beginning of this year, the societies were allowed to double the amount of funds they raise wholesale from the money markets from 20 per cent to 40 per cent, and they have been quick to take advantage of the new ceiling. Borrowers, however, could be forgiven for noticing no difference.

Abbey National, the most hawkish of the building societies, makes it clear that competition is the spur to change. "Conversion gives us the freedom to compete on the same basis as our major competitors. It gives us more flexibility in our operations and greatly enhances our options for funding our development," said Sir Campbell Adamson, the chairman.

Faced with relative decline in the serious business of lending money for house purchase, the heavyweights in the movement have ploughed into personal loans and other financial services away from the mainstream of mortgage lending. The ever-relaxing regulations have recognised the urge and gone with it. The next logical step is probably conversion to public limited company.

But before the movement goes too far down the road, which leads to a need to produce an ever-rising trend of profits and earnings per share, it should stop and consider whether there is really any point in competing head-on with the banks. There might be other, "social" roles such as the provision of rented housing, which the societies may find more rewarding, and where there will be much less competition, if any.

Victory for pragmatism

The pound duly rose above DM3.10, the sky did not fall in, and the Chancellor did not resign. The simplistic view that the events of this month have just been a lot of bluffing and puffing about shifting sterling's ceiling from DM3 to DM3.10 has proved unfounded.

Exchange rate policy has gone through a distinct shift, which parallels the changes in the use of monetary targets in the first half of the 1980s. Just as then it was found that tight and rigorously pursued targets for the monetary aggregates were more trouble than they were worth, so the same has happened for exchange rate management.

The key difference is that, while the present Chancellor was the arch-pragmatist in adopting a more flexible approach to monetary targets, this time he has had pragmatism forced upon him.

The new policy is to achieve broad stability for sterling, within a fairly wide range, to use "smoothing intervention" to counter any particularly sharp day-to-day movements in the exchange rate, but to use interest rates as the chief weapon for restraining sterling, as and when its rise is deemed to have gone far

enough. The Bank may have indulged in a little smoothing yesterday, but some operators said there was no actual intervention, simply rumours of it.

The pound closed at DM3.1055 and \$1.8365 yesterday. Money market rates softened fractionally but the markets will not be excited about the prospect of 8 per cent base rates until sterling is heading towards DM3.20 and the February trade figures, to be published tomorrow, are out of the way.

Britain's exchange rate policy is moving further away from the European Monetary System model. Ironically, a Bank of England discussion paper by Mark Taylor and Michael Artis, released this week, finds in favour of the EMS.

The paper, *What Has the European Monetary System Achieved?*, concludes that EMS member currencies enjoy reduced volatility, both of exchange rates and interest rates.

The paper looks forward to closer co-operation on monetary policy and interest rates between EMS members. Given the exchange rate debate of the past few weeks, and the new and determinedly flexible approach to sterling, Britain looks highly unlikely to be a full participant.

Schroders at £27m but dollar profits are hit

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

Schroders, the merchant banking group, has reported 1987 after-tax profits up from £21 million to £27.1 million after undisclosed transfers to inner reserves.

The company is involved in the securities business, especially through its half-owned New York associate Wertheim Schroder.

After the undisclosed transfers, group operating profits rose from £23.2 million to

Pensions produce 7% return on UK equities

By Cliff Feltham

Despite the stock market crash, pension fund managers, managed to produce a return of 7.1 per cent on their investment in British equities last year, according to a survey published yesterday.

The report, from WM Company, which measures the performance of 70 per cent of pension funds, worth £135 billion, says the view that equities are the preferred home for pension fund assets does not seem to have

changed much as a result of the crash. WM says that over the past 10 years British equities have been the best-performing sector, showing a return of 20 per cent, well ahead of overseas equities (14.9 per cent), British bonds (13.9 per cent), and property (12.4 per cent).

Overall, funds earned a return of 3.4 per cent on their total investments, which is in line with the rise in the retail price index.

Watching money go Natwest

As if National Westminster's shareholders had not suffered enough already... They have watched the value of their investment slide from almost £8 a share to under £5, following the stock market crash; stood by as the bank wrote off £759 million of Third World debt, and are now being forced to shell out a further £3.4 million more than they need - this time, horror of horrors, to the taxman. For Natwest seems determined to press ahead with its plans to pay its final dividend of 16p a share on April 5, just 24 hours before the Chancellor's new tax cuts come into play. One irate shareholder who telephoned the Action Bank to complain could find no one prepared to comment. Neither could I. That same shareholder now wants a campaign mounted, pointing out that next year, because shareholders will be allowed to opt for shares in lieu of cash, the dividend payment will be made in the following tax year. "So we'll only get one dividend - the interim - in the new tax year," he wailed. Come on, Lord Boardman, surely your bank should not throw away shareholders' money?

Paper profits

Anita Roddick, chairman of Body Shop, has never been a woman to do things by halves, and her efforts to conserve trees do not stop at using recycled paper for the company's annual report. All 160

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Brute Fourth Estate

The pen may be mightier than the sword, but it is not necessarily mightier than the right hook. As a result of perhaps a little too much post-lunch bravado, two City journalists on the London newspaper the *Evening Standard* will, I hear, face one another in a boxing match next month. The bout, which will take place above a pub - appropriately called The Ring - close to the Elephant &

staff at the company's offices in Littlehampton, Sussex, have two waste-paper bins under their desks - one white and one black. Into the black bin goes all the paper that can be recycled, while the white bin takes the rest. The average office worker apparently gen-



"I got caught between a shareholders' and an investors' meeting outside the Abbey National!"

Castle, on April 28, will be between Peter Osborne and Stephen Hargrave. There is already, I am told, more than £3,000 in side bets riding on the pair, with Osborne, ex-Rothschilds, the favourite. Plucky Hargrave, once a fund manager with Saxe & Prosper, has never boxed before, is, at 32, two years Osborne's senior, four inches shorter and with a lesser reach. He has, however, been training hard...

erates 60lb of recoverable paper each year, while the warehouse staff is also doing its bit for Project Paperback by recycling cardboard boxes. The exercise is expected to show a profit of £2,000 in its first year.

Show of force

When managers at Woolworth's B&Q subsidiary travel, they travel in numbers and in style. For their annual management conference 350 of them are off to Vienna tomorrow, to dine in celebration of this year's management theme of "aggression and competition." The group has hired the Hofburg Palace - where the Salt II Treaty was signed - for the weekend, and B&Q managing director Jim Hodgkinson tells me he is even taking a small professional orchestra, to entertain the troops. Does the home town of the Straussos not have one of its own?

Gilded Lilly

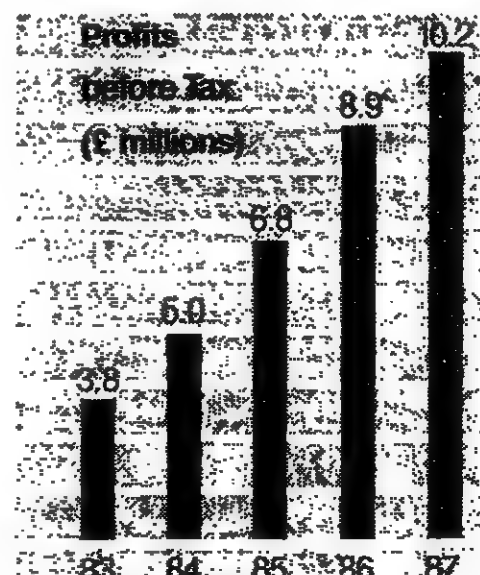
Shares in Eli Lilly, the big US pharmaceutical firm knocked badly by the cost of Opren compensation, have been rising sharply on Wall Street this week on talk of a wonder love potion. New York stock market analysts have been spreading the word that a new miracle drug, capable of curing impotence, was about to go on sale. But, as the stock soared by more than \$2 the other day, the company attempted to downsize passions. Admitting that early tests were encouraging, it claimed that it was years away from producing the drug, code-named LY-163502. Louis Ehrenkrantz, of the Wall Street firm Ehrlichman and King, was unrepentant, however. "They are trying to keep it under wraps," he insisted, pointing to the 15 volunteer clinics, set up by the company, around the country. Leading psychiatrist Professor Brian Doyle, of Georgetown University, Washington, DC, warned however that the drug could have unpleasant side-effects. "Users can show poor judgement, such as investing too much money without thinking about it," he said.

● American Nancy Fitzroy, a former president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, was last night accepted as an honorary fellow of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, its British equivalent. Fitzroy, only the second woman to be thus honoured, lives in New York state, near a town called Mechanicville...

Carol Leonard

Royal Trust Bank

A year of marked progress with profits up 15% in 1987



"The considerable growth that has been achieved by Royal Trust Bank in recent years was maintained last year. Operating results improved once again while the underlying trend of business development continued to strengthen the position of the Bank for the future."

Nigel Robson, Chairman of Royal Trust Bank, in his report for 1987.

Royal Trust Bank is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Royal Trust, Canada's largest trust company with total assets under administration of C\$ 84 billion worldwide. One of the most conservatively capitalized financial institutions in North America, Royal Trust's long term debt is rated AA. The Canadian parent company has unlimited liability for Royal Trust Bank.

Royal Trust Bank, from offices in London, Manchester, Ipswich, Leeds and shortly Bristol, provides a wide range of banking and financial services to corporations, professional partnerships and private clients. These services include commercial lending, corporate finance, treasury, corporate trust, global custody, property finance (residential and commercial mortgages, development finance) private banking and advice on personal tax and estates.

Copies of the 1987 Annual Report of Royal Trust Bank can be obtained from the Company Secretary at the London address below.

ROYAL TRUST
Royal Trust Bank

Royal Trust Bank, Royal Trust House, 48/50 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6LD. Telephone: 01-236 6844. Telex: 8952279. Facsimile: 01-248 0828. Offices in Manchester (061) 832 3033 Ipswich (0473) 232223 and Leeds (0532) 461889.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

The CBI mentions examples of cost reductions because of a single market. Philips Electronics expects a single standard for television sets to be agreed by the end of 1992. And Fisons expects to save more than £10 million on each

new drug due to the emergence of a single EEC centre for registering and securing approval for new products.

Mr Owens said: "We are going to become real Europeans whether we like it or not. We are well behind the French

Leading article, page 15

ALPHA STOCKS

[illegible]

Mr Peter de Savary's LandLeisure group is unwinding its connection with Sir James Goldsmith's business empire. It is selling its hotel and casino operation in Darwin, Australia, and its minority stake in Oriental & American Investments, a forestry business, to Goldsmith associates for about £6.8 million. The 1.47 million LandLeisure shares held by Sir James's Cayman Island company, Ultrabridge Securities, have been placed with institutions.

Figure 1. Schematic diagram of the experimental setup. The subject is seated in a chair, viewing a video screen. The video screen displays a target (a red dot) and a starting point (a black dot). The subject's hand is positioned at the starting point. The video screen is connected to a computer system. The computer system controls the video screen and the starting point.

1000

First Dealings March 14	Last Dealings March 25	Last Declaration June 16	For Settlement June 27
Cell options were taken out on: 23/3/88 C Wilson Hldgs., Farrand, North Kalguri Mines, BP p/p, Polymark, Astra Hldgs., Brunswick, J Crowther, Dewey Warren Hldgs., Penland, London Investment Trust, Owners Abroad.			

Page 10 of 10

FINANCIAL NEWS FROM B A T INDUSTRIES



PRELIMINARY RESULTS

£1 = \$1.88 at 31.12.87 (\$1.48 at 31.12.86).

\$1 = \$1.88 at 31.12.87 (\$1.48 at 31.12.86).	Year to December 1987	Year to December 1986	Change
GROUP TURNOVER	£17,208m	£19,167m	-10%
PRE-TAX PROFIT	£1,394m	£1,393m	-
EARNINGS PER SHARE	52.78p	53.51p	-1%
DIVIDEND PER SHARE	16.90p	14.30p	+18%

Increased dividend underlines Group strength. • Pre-tax profit affected by exchange rate movements (£192m) and stock market collapse (£102m). • Turnover from continuing businesses 5% higher in constant currencies. • Strong cash flow: net debt/equity down to 10%. • In local currencies tobacco did well – with profit increases of 19% at Brown & Williamson and 17% at BATCo. Export success in Japan. • Argos star performance with sales up 23%. Better Horten results. • Marshall Field's raises profits with sales exceeding \$1 billion. • Eucalyptus pulp operations do well but higher prices affect paper profits. • Strong premium growth at Eagle Star: significantly improved underwriting results but profits down after reduced investment gains. • Allied Dunbar another record year, profits doubled at Canada Trustco.



B·A·T INDUSTRIES

VICES • RETAILING • PAPER • TOBACCO

financial statements will be delivered to the Registrar of Companies and carry an unqualified audit report. The full results are being posted to shareholders and can also be obtained from the Company Secretary, RAT Industries plc, Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0PL.

[illegible]

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES				
AMI Healthcare (215p)	277	Copymore (130p)	131	-8
Archer (AJ) (130p)	198	Eurotune	330	
Auktat Ass (95p)	103	Eurotunnel Writs	231	
Berry Star	166	GWR Gp	34	
Brit Pet P/P	77	Halford Est (100p)	128	
Carron Phoenix (120p)	181	Hughes (HT)	80	
		ISA Inti (80p)	121	+1
		Inshops (52p)	70	
		Lon. Forging (160p)	198	

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	8.50%	TIP Reports	148
Adam & Company	8.50%	Tion Hods (80p)	64 +2
BCCI	8.50%	Transair Flts (50p)	81
Consolidated Crds	8.50%	UK Paper (135p)	150 +3
Co-operative Bank	8.50%	Vesper Thomy (160p)	100 -1
C. Hoare & Co	8.50%		
Hong Kong & Shanghai	8.50%	RIGHTS ISSUES	
Lloyds Bank	8.50%	Charanath N/P	11
Nat Westminster	8.50%	Hartons N/P	31
Royal Bank of Scotland	8.50%	Jackson S/P	1 1/2 -1
TSB	8.50%	Leisure N/P	7
Citibank NA	8.50%	Mining & Aid N/P	5 -3
		Outwood N/P	285 +20
		Shandev N/P	20
		Sumrie N/P	10

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THE POWER OF TEAMWORK

**A Seminar for C.E.O.'s and Personnel
& Training Professionals by
Dr. Robert E. Lefton (USA)
At the Institute of Directors, Pall Mall
Monday, April 11th-10.30am-12.30pm.**

Fresh from a series of talks in the USA—with co-speakers Peter Drucker and Tom Peters—Dr. Robert Lefton, one of America's foremost consultants on management development, will present a unique approach to achieving effective teamwork based on experience with leading Companies on the Fortune 500 List.

Delegates wishing to attend should mail the coupon to ensure accreditation for the Seminar and reception to:
PEOPLE SKILLS INTERNATIONAL
81 SOUTHWARK ST, LONDON SE1 0HX.

I should like to reserve the following number of places

I enclose cheque for £28.75 (inc. VAT) per delegate made payable to: "People Skills International".

NAME (please print) _____
 COMPANY ADDRESS _____

 TEL No. _____



ON TURKISH-OCCUPIED CYPRUS



In yesterday's edition, The Times printed a Special Report on "Northern Cyprus" — in other words, on the area of Cyprus which is at present occupied by the armed forces of Turkey.

We, the representatives of over 200,000 Greek Cypriots in Britain, have bought this space in order to voice our dismay at this promotion of an illegal "Republic".

We object because this "Republic" is nothing but a secessionist, unrecognised pseudo-state, established with the blessing of Turkey and supported by thousands of her occupying troops, bent on maintaining by force of arms the artificial division of the island's Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities.

As people who were born in Cyprus, who have relatives and friends that have been forcibly uprooted from their homes and properties, it breaks our hearts to see *their* land and *their* investments being promoted and advertised under the misnomer of "Northern Cyprus".

It is disturbing to see strenuous attempts to promote this illegal "state" at a time when new U.N. efforts are under way to reunite the island and when there are signs of a more positive climate in the region which might at last allow those efforts a chance of success.

The fact is that there is only one Cyprus, with a long, rich and proud history — a common land belonging to all Cypriots.

No amount of propaganda and advertising in the service of bigotry and intolerance will shake our resolve to work with our Turkish Cypriot compatriots towards the reunification of our beloved Cyprus. Nor will it shake our adherence and that of our British friends to the principles of justice and freedom.

For our part, we look forward to the day when all the occupying troops and settlers have gone, and all the people of a new federal and demilitarised Republic of Cyprus can get on with building lasting peace and prosperity.

THE NEW ROVER 827 SLi. (TELL TCHAIKOVSKY THE NEWS.)



The Royal Albert Hall. National monument and home of some of the finest acoustics in the world. Be it a Mozart quartet or the 1812 Overture, you'll hear music in its most natural, undistorted form.

And that's just how we wanted you to hear music in the new 827 SLi. So our Rover designers listened closely to the experts. The back-room boys at ELAC. (Electro Acoustic Industries.)

They explained how constraints on acoustic performance can be minimised by the exact matching of frequency response to the interior characteristics of the car. And further reduced by intelligent speaker location. So our designers examined the car.

And out went any thought of fitting tweeters in the dash top. The high



Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky. 1840-1893. When it came to acoustics, not an easy man to please.

notes get reflected off the inside of the windscreen, causing dispersal and confusion.

And in went tweeters just forward of the door handles. The mid-range door speakers were angled to the listener's head, not his feet. While two 6½" 40 watt co-axial units were mounted in the rear woofer system.

The result? A nigh on perfect stereo image in an executive saloon. And the perfect accompaniment to the lively performance of the car's new 24 valve 2.7 litre engine.

It will speed you from 0-60 in a very spirited 7.6 seconds*. And propel you through that crucial mid-range with almost ungentlemanly keenness.

While the four speed electronic automatic box allows you to switch from dynamic sports mode to effortless cruising for mile upon mile of whisper-quiet motorway driving. Cosseted, naturally, in traditional Rover luxury.

The new eight-speaker Rover 827 SLi. Roll over, Beethoven.

ROVER 800 SERIES

CAR SHOWN, ROVER 827SLi. PRICE £17,876. ROVER 800 RANGE FROM £12,499 TO £21,391. ALL PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS, EXCLUDING NUMBER PLATES AND DELIVERY. *MANUFACTURER'S DATA: FIGURE QUOTED IS FOR MANUAL TRANSMISSION, AVAILABLE AS NO-COST OPTION ON 827 SLi AND SLi. FOR FULL DETAILS OF YOUR NEAREST ROVER DEALER RING 01-300-0300. NATIONWIDE CAR RENTAL RESERVATIONS THROUGH BRITISH CAR RENTAL TEL: 030-7723. TAX FREE SALES INFORMATION 021-475-2101 EXT 230.

Guinness

The extradition of
for Mr. Andrew
stockbroker
connection with
Distillers. Several
charges. Lawrence
has happened

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for Mr. Andrew
stockbroker
connection with
Distillers. Several
charges. Lawrence
has happened

Well-known British
Gordon's son, the
Walker family were
control of the
central location of
for 25 years.

The Distillers
been one of the most
fought to keep the
Distillers the
the form of a
and 100 years
James G.

For more than
Argentina and
over 100 years
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Nor
nor Mr. S.
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YEAR 198

171.5

89.1

8.6

35.5

ANOTHER
FROM

Guinness: unravelling the story

The extradition hearing starts this week for Mr Anthony Parnes, the stockbroker facing 19 charges in connection with Guinness's takeover of Distillers. Several other City figures face charges. Lawrence Lever explains what has happened so far

Towards the end of 1986, Mr Ernest Saunders, the chairman and chief executive of Guinness, was riding high. In the space of five years he had transformed Guinness from a sleepy brewer of stout with declining profits to an international drinks company more than 30 times the size it was when Mr Saunders arrived on the scene.

Well-known brands such as Gordon's gin and Johnnie Walker whisky were under his control after Guinness's successful takeover of Distillers for £2.7 billion in April.

The Distillers takeover had been one of the most bitterly fought in corporate history. Distillers had a rival suitor in the form of Argyll, the drinks and food group run by Mr James Gulliver.

For more than two months, Argyll and Guinness battled over Distillers in the stock market, the courts and in government departments. It was an unseemly scramble characterized by allegations of dirty tricks, libel actions and regular complaints to the City's Takeover Panel.

The fact that Guinness emerged victorious on April 18, 1986, was in no small measure due to Mr Roger Seelig. Mr Seelig was the star corporate financier at Morgan Grenfell, Guinness's merchant bank. He was renowned as a brilliant tactician and a highly creative thinker.

Morgan Grenfell had a reputation as an aggressive merchant bank, one which was not afraid to preach its rivals' clients. Its aggression had paid off: it was constantly top of the league tables of banks which acted in takeover bids. But its success had earned it enemies.

Neither Morgan Grenfell nor Mr Seelig belonged in "the Establishment," Mr Saunders was definitely not an establishment figure. He had offended practically every important authority involved in overseeing the financial community when Guinness reneged on two promises it had made to the numerous Distillers shareholders during the takeover battle, aimed at securing their support.

If successful, Guinness pledged it would move the company's headquarters to Scotland. And it would appoint Sir Thomas Risk, the Governor of the Bank of Scotland, as chairman.

The Guinness retraction started a political and financial dispute which left the Government and the Bank of England fuming.

On December 1, 1986, the worlds of Mr Saunders, Mr Seelig, and several others involved in the Distillers bid started falling apart.

On that day, the Government announced it had appointed two inspectors to investigate the affairs of Guinness, under sections of the Companies Act that made clear wrongdoing was suspected.

There was a co-ordinated raid by the inspectors and Department of Trade and Industry officials on several City institutions involved in the Guinness takeover of Distillers, expounding documents and warning against their destruction.

The two inspectors, Mr David Donaldson, QC, and Mr Ian Watt, an accountant, went to Guinness's Portman Square headquarters in London where they were met by Mr Olivier Roux, the finance director.

It was perhaps significant that at the time of the appointment of the inspectors, Mr Saunders and Mr Roux were not getting on.

In the Parnes extradition case, Mr Roux claims in evidence: "At the outset of the bid (for Distillers), my relationship with Ernest Saunders was reasonably close, although the relationship was never one of equals. During the course of the bid, the relationship deteriorated. At the end of the bid, the relationship was strained and he was hardly talking to me."

All communication between the two men ceased a few days later.

The government investigation was triggered by information which the US authorities provided to the DTI.

A huge insider dealing investigation in the United States had netted Ivan Boesky, a well-known Wall Street speculator. Boesky struck a deal with the US authorities: he would tell all he knew about the illegal activities he had been involved in, in return for leniency. He revealed he had been involved in the Guinness takeover of Distillers.

It is common in large takeover bids, Guinness had not offered Distillers shareholders cash for their shares.

Instead, its offer consisted largely of new Guinness shares. It followed that if the price of Guinness shares went up, the value of its offer to Distillers shareholders would increase—hopefully above the level of the rival Argyll bid.

Boesky claimed he had agreed a secret deal with Guinness during the bid. According to US court evidence, he agreed to buy vast quantities of Guinness shares "to artificially affect its market price and make the Guinness offer more attractive."

In return, Boesky alleged that in return Guinness guar-



Ernest Saunders: transformed sleepy stout brewer into international drinks group before the Distillers battle lost to his fall



Characters in the Guinness affair: from left, Ivan Boesky, Olivier Roux, Christopher Reeves and Graham Walsh



Arrested and charged with various offences: from left, Sir Jack Lyons, Gerald Ronson, Lord Spens and Anthony Parnes

anteed to indemnify him against any losses on his purchases of Guinness shares and promised him an unspecified financial reward. After the Distillers takeover, Guinness invested \$100 million in a fund run by Boesky.

However, when the DTI inquiry was announced, Boesky's role was not publicly known. It did not take long for this information to come out, nor for the scale of the share-price support operation and the Guinness payments to supporters to be revealed.

The real catalyst was Mr Olivier Roux. His letter, in early January 1987, to the Guinness board, claimed the company had secretly orchestrated a massive support operation for its own share price and had paid out millions of pounds in indemnities and success fees to "supporters."

Such a share-price support operation was potentially illegal under the Companies Act, which makes it a criminal offence for a company to purchase its own shares, except in certain narrowly defined circumstances.

It was also claimed that Mr Saunders had been a prime figure in the support operation and the payments—a claim he flatly denies.

Ten people, including Mr

Saunders, Mr Roux and Mr Seelig, lost their jobs in the first two months of the Guinness investigation. Mr Saunders was dismissed. Most of the others were allowed to resign. Three of the 10 left after pressure was exerted by the Bank of England.

Also on the casualty list was Mr Anthony Parnes, a stockbroker who acted for several prominent businessmen. His firm, Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank, severed all links with him as soon as it emerged that he had helped procure the support of Mr Gerald Ronson, head of the Heron Corporation.

Mr Ronson admitted to receiving £5.8 million from Guinness in return for buying £25 million worth of Guinness shares. In January 1987 he returned the money.

Mr Parnes had been introduced to Guinness by Sir Jack Lyons, a businessman and patron of the arts.

According to Mr Roux's claims in California: "Sir Jack Lyons and Anthony Parnes were also involved (in the Distillers bid) on a 'behind the scenes' basis as unofficial financial advisers."

Between them Sir Jack and Mr Parnes were paid fees of £5.6 million for their services. Their fees and those of Mr

Ronson formed part of £25 million paid to supporters of the Guinness bid. Much of this has since been repaid.

Also included in the £25 million is, according to Guinness, a payment to Mr Thomas Ward, a Guinness director who has since resigned.

Guinness is suing Mr Ward and Mr Saunders in the High Court for the recovery of this money. Pending this, Mr Saunders's assets have been frozen by the court.

Mr Saunders's position, as described in a letter to Guinness shareholders, is that "I have not benefited in any way whatsoever from any part of the £25 million of allegedly improper payments, nor did I have any knowledge of, or part in, any unlawful share-support operation or any other unlawful transaction."

He describes himself as "a marketing man" and "not a man versed in financial and City matters."

While Guinness was mounting an international operation to recover the £25 million, a Fraud Squad investigation was launched under the auspices of the Crown Prosecution Service (formerly the Director of Public Prosecutions).

The Fraud Squad had access to transcripts of evidence taken by the DTI inspectors from witnesses. The inspectors have tough powers to compel witnesses to answer questions. These transcripts have formed the basis for criminal charges of theft, false accounting, conspiracy and illegal financial

assistance against several of the Guinness supporters.

The CPS has taken the view that the share-price support operation was unlawful. In the US government's evidence filed for Mr Parnes's extradition proceedings, it is described as "a sophisticated and illegal share-support scheme to increase artificially the price of Guinness shares in circumstances where the share price was of crucial importance."

The CPS has also taken the view that the payments made to the supporters constituted theft from Guinness.

Mr Roux, whose name appears on many of the £25 million Guinness invoices, has not been charged with any offence. He is expected to be a

THE LONG TRAIL TO LOS ANGELES

January 20, 1986: Guinness launches a £2.2bn agreed takeover bid for Distillers.

March 21: Guinness raises bid to £2.7bn.

April 18: Argyll defeated by Guinness in Distillers bid.

May 29: Guinness invests \$100m in fund run by Ivan Boesky.

July 14: Sir Thomas Risk dropped as chairman-to-be.

September 14: Boesky revealed as insider dealer. Involvement with Guinness relayed to DTI.

December 1: DTI inquiry into Guinness announced.

December 31: Morgan Grenfell resigns as Guinness's merchant bank. Mr Seelig forced to resign.

January 5, 1987: Mr Olivier Roux, Guinness finance director, reveals multi-million share support operation and payments to "supporters."

January 8: Mr Saunders stands down until outcome of the DTI inquiry.

January 32: Mr Roux resigns.

January 34: Guinness dismisses Mr Saunders and seeks resignations as directors of Mr Thomas Ward and Dr Arthur Furey.

January 16: Dr Furey resigns.

January 17: High Court orders Mr Ward to repay £25m.

January 26: Mr Saunders arrested, charged with three offences concerning alleged destruction of documents.

July 17: High Court orders Mr Ward to repay £25m.

October 6: Mr Parnes arrested, charged with theft of £24m.

October 13: Mr Ronson arrested, charged with theft of £295m.

October 27: Mr Parnes agrees to repay £2m to Guinness.

November 16: Sir Jack Lyons agrees to return undisclosed sum to Guinness.

January 19, 1988: High Court told that Cazeneuve & Co, the stockbroker, received two £76m cheques for the purchase of 10 million Distillers shares on penultimate day of Guinness bid.

March 10: Lord Spens arrested and charged with four offences.

by Mr Ephraim Margulies, offers to repay £1.4m received from Guinness.

January 28: Zentralparkasse und Kommerzbank, the Austrian bank, admits receiving £254,000 from Guinness.

March 18: Guinness issues writ against Mr Saunders and Mr Ward over £25m payments and obtains injunction freezing their UK assets.

April 15: Court refuses to lift asset-freezing order against Mr Saunders and Mr Ward.

May 7: Mr Ward resigns as Guinness director.

May 30: Mr Saunders arrested, charged with three offences concerning alleged destruction of documents.

July 17: High Court orders Mr Ward to repay £25m.

July 26: Mr Saunders says he is suing Guinness and Mr Roux.

October 6: Mr Parnes arrested, charged with theft of £24m.

October 13: Mr Ronson arrested, charged with theft of £295m.

October 27: Mr Parnes agrees to repay £2m to Guinness.

November 16: Sir Jack Lyons agrees to return undisclosed sum to Guinness.

January 19, 1988: High Court told that Cazeneuve & Co, the stockbroker, received two £76m cheques for the purchase of 10 million Distillers shares on penultimate day of Guinness bid.

March 10: Lord Spens arrested and charged with four offences.

key witness for the prosecution.

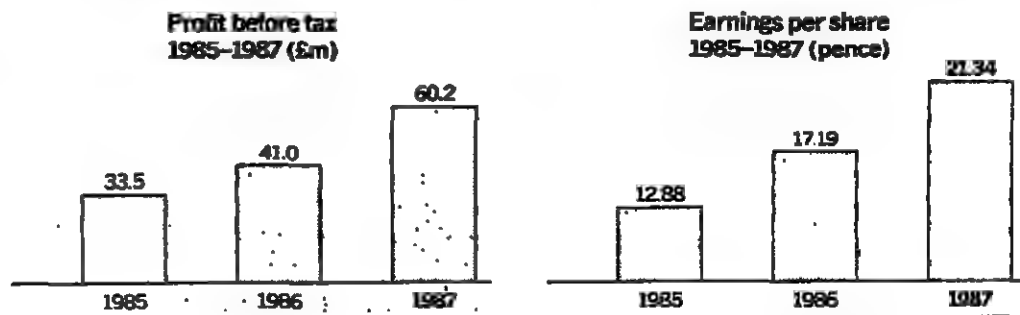
All the defendants deny every charge that has been brought against them. Top-level teams of barristers and solicitors have been assembled on both sides.

The trial is expected late this year, although extradition proceedings for Mr Parnes and possibly Mr Ward, could delay it until well into 1989.

Meanwhile, a DTI investigation has begun into the Burton Group, which appears to focus on its takeover of Debenhams in 1985.

Mr Parnes played a key role in this takeover bid, as did Mr Ronson. At the moment the DTI inquiry is limited. A full-scale investigation may, however, be launched.

Another year of record growth



Extracts from a statement by the Chairman, Professor Roland Smith.

1987 has been a most successful and busy year for Hepworth with record profits being achieved yet again with all the companies in the group contributing to an outstanding performance as well as important profit contributions from the recently acquired heating and refractory businesses.

Controlled expansion by acquisition has continued in the early months of 1988 with the public offer to acquire The Henderson Group plc which manufactures domestic garage and industrial doors and security products.

It is the board's strategic intention to develop and broaden the involvement of Hepworth in building products that are capable of expansion through improved marketing and management techniques.

Executive management has been strengthened at both corporate and operating levels and I believe that we now have a strong team in place which can fulfill our operational objectives.

Trading in the year to date has been excellent and unaudited results show a significant improvement on the equivalent period last year suggesting a favourable outcome for the year.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS			
	1987 £ million	1986 £ million	Percentage Change
Turnover	415.4	362.4	+14.6%
Profit before tax	60.2	41.0	+46.8%
Profit after tax	39.6	27.5	+44.0%
Earnings per share	21.34p	17.19p	+24.1%
Dividend	5.90p	8.28p	+19.6%

HEP WORTH

CERAMIC HOLDINGS PLC

YEAR 1986	YEAR 1987
RESULTS	
171.5	195.5
PREMIUM INCOME £m	
89.1	101.7
POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS £m	
8.6	10.3
STOCKHOLDERS' SURPLUS £m	
35.5p	42.0p
NET DIVIDEND	

ANOTHER EXCELLENT INNINGS FROM BRITANNIC

Britannic Assurance

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE PLC
MOOR GREEN, MOSELEY, BIRMINGHAM B13 8OF TELEPHONE 021-449 4444

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER

20p (Eire 30p)

de fatal.

SMOKE AND YOU'RE SACKED

Office workers face ban

THE way is now clear for a ban on smoking in all offices and factories, with lighting up a sacking offence.

Toolmaker Dennis Rogers yesterday lost his case for constructive dismissal after claiming that a smoking ban had forced him to give up his 20-year job.

by STEVE MCKENLAY

An industrial tribunal rejected his argument on the grounds that he did not have the contractual right to smoke at work.

Companies

Do we live in a free country? 17 million people are having serious doubts.

This time, it's the freedom of Britain's seventeen million smokers that's under threat. Who'll be next on the hit list?

SUPPORTING THE SMOKER'S SIDE OF THE ARGUMENT. TOBACCO ADVISORY COUNCIL.

LVL 1/1/20

[illegible]

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES					OTHER STERLING RATES	
Sterling index compared with 1975 was up at 77.3 (day's range 77.1-77.4).						
Market rates for March 23						
Range	Close	1 month	3 month			
W Afr	1.8350-1.8350	1.8394-1.8370	0.25p-0.25p	0.79-0.74p	Argentina austral *	11.7986-11.8691
Y Afr	2.2912-2.2908	2.2917-2.2889	0.12p-0.12p	0.77-0.72p	Australia dollar	0.8202-0.8202
Bahrain dir	3.4818-3.4878	3.4836-3.4870	0.12p-0.12p	0.70-0.70p	Bahrain dir	0.6690-0.6690
Brazil cruzeiro *	44.61-65.23	64.99-65.19	23-60p	40p-30p	Brazil cruzeiro *	20.03-20.04
Cyprus pound	11.8810-11.9120	11.8810-11.9120	40p-10p	0.70-0.70p	Cyprus pound	0.8020-0.8330
Denmark kr	1.5561-1.6121	1.5822-1.5822	1/2-1/2p	40p-40p	Denmark kr	0.8202-0.8330
France franc	3.1005-3.1143	3.1037-3.1072	1 1/2-1/2p	40p-34p	France franc	240.07-249.00
Germany DM	252.47-254.70	253.44-254.48	78-125p	286-391p	Hong Kong dollar	14.3414-12.5612
Greece dr	229.57-230.11	229.57-230.11	1-1/2p	88-20p	India rupee	13.44-13.44
India rupee	229.57-230.11	229.57-230.11	1-1/2p	88-20p	Indonesia rupiah	0.0205-0.0205
Iran r	11.8890-11.9120	11.8890-11.9120	40p-40p	150p-175p	Israel sheqel	0.4150-0.4150
Italy lire	10.9467-10.9807	10.9520-10.9520	40p-38p	10p-10p	Japan yen	236.90-236.90
Kenya sh	232.42-233.09	232.76-233.09	1 1/2-1/2p	23-21p	Saudi Arabia riyal	0.8575-0.8975
Malaysia ringgit	2.71-21.87	2.71-21.87	98-98p	30p-30p	Singapore dollar	0.7024-0.7024
Marocco dir	2.3407-2.3407	2.3407-2.3407	11-11p	40p-40p	Sri Lanka rupee	0.3911-0.3911
Nigeria naira	2.3407-2.3407	2.3407-2.3407	11-11p	40p-40p	S Africa rand (com)	3.9311-3.9389
Portugal escudo	206.25-206.25	206.25-206.25	11-11p	40p-40p	U A E dirham	0.6125-0.6125
Spain peseta	166.66-166.66	166.66-166.66	11-11p	40p-40p		

*Lloyds Bank Rates supplied by Reuters

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates vs Clearing Banks: 8% **Finance Fee:** 8%
Discount Market Loans:
 Overnight: High 5 Low 7 **Week loan:** 8%
Treasury Bills (Discount %)
 Staring 2 mth - 8% 3 mth - 8%
 Selling 2 mth - 8% 3 mth - 8%
Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)
 1 mth: 8%-8% 2 mth: 8%-8% 3 mth: 8%-8%
 6 mth: 8%-8%
Trade Bills (Discount %)
 1 mth: 8% 2 mth: 8%+ 3 mth: 8%+
 6 mth: 8%+
Interbank (%): Overnight: open 8% close 8%
 1 mth: 8% 2 mth: 8% 3 mth: 8%+
 6 mth: 8%+ 9 mth: 8%+ 12 mth: 9%+
Local Authority Deposits (%)
 2 day: 8% 7 day: 8% 1 mth: 8%
 3 mth: 8% 6 mth: 8% 12 mth: 8%
Local Authority Bonds (%)
 1 mth: 8%-8% 2 mth: 8%-8% 3 mth: 8%-8%
 6 mth: 8%-8% 9 mth: 8%-8% 12 mth: 8%-8%

Stirling Cds (%)
 1 mth: 8%-8% 3 mth: 8%-8% 6 mth: 8%-8%
 9 mth: 8%-8%
Dollar Cds (%)
 1 mth: 8.55-9.00 3 mth: 8.70-9.00 6 mth: 8.95-9.00
 12 mth: 7.25-7.30

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %
Currency
 7 day 1 mth 3 mth 6 mth
 Dollar: 8%-8% 8%-8% 8%-8% 8%-8%
 Deutschmark: 8%-8% 8%-8% 8%-8% 8%-8%
 Cdt: 3%-2%
 French Franc: 7%-7% 8%-8% 8%-8% 8%-8%
 Cdt: 7%-6%
 Swiss Franc: 7%-7% 7%-7% 7%-7% 7%-7%
 Cdt: 7%-6%
 Yen: 7%-7% 7%-7% 7%-7% 7%-7%
 Cdt: 3%-2%

ECGD
Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance, Make-up over
 February 28, 1968 - Agreed report March 26, 1968 to April
 25, 1968 - Scheme 1: 10.56 per cent
 10.56 per cent. Reference rate January 30, 1968 to
 February 25, 1968 - Scheme 1B: 9.247 per cent.

GOLD

[illegible]

COMMODITIES

COFFEE	G W Johnson	Steel	344.50-345.00	331.00-331.50	30525	Steady
Mar 1095-092 <td>Nov 1200-185 <td>Zinc Hi Gals <td>553.50-554.00 <td>547.50-548.00 <td>54000 <th>Steady</th> </td></td></td></td></td>	Nov 1200-185 <td>Zinc Hi Gals <td>553.50-554.00 <td>547.50-548.00 <td>54000 <th>Steady</th> </td></td></td></td>	Zinc Hi Gals <td>553.50-554.00 <td>547.50-548.00 <td>54000 <th>Steady</th> </td></td></td>	553.50-554.00 <td>547.50-548.00 <td>54000 <th>Steady</th> </td></td>	547.50-548.00 <td>54000 <th>Steady</th> </td>	54000 <th>Steady</th>	Steady
May 1125-123 <td>Jan 1217-215 <td>Silver Larger <td>644.00-647.00 <td>655.00-658.00 <td>21 <th>Quiet</th> </td></td></td></td></td>	Jan 1217-215 <td>Silver Larger <td>644.00-647.00 <td>655.00-658.00 <td>21 <th>Quiet</th> </td></td></td></td>	Silver Larger <td>644.00-647.00 <td>655.00-658.00 <td>21 <th>Quiet</th> </td></td></td>	644.00-647.00 <td>655.00-658.00 <td>21 <th>Quiet</th> </td></td>	655.00-658.00 <td>21 <th>Quiet</th> </td>	21 <th>Quiet</th>	Quiet

	FOB	Vol	1900-1920	1930-1940	5840	Very Fam
32.00	May 1972-97.4	Dec 1940-95.0				
32.00	Aug 1968-97.0	Mar 1956-96.4				

† (Cents per Troy oz.) * (\$ per tonne)

WHEAT Class (cwt)		VOL 150		Mth		Open		Close		(cwt hr)		markets on March 23		
Mar	Apr	Mar	Apr	Mar	Apr	Mar	Apr	Mar	Apr	Mar	Apr	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
102.10	103.75	105.85	107.00	104.20	105.85	107.00	108.15	109.30	110.45	111.60	112.75	113.90	115.05	116.20
102.15	103.80	105.90	107.05	104.25	105.90	107.05	108.20	109.35	110.50	111.65	112.80	113.95	115.10	116.25

140.4	SOYABEAN			Live Cattle Contract					
145.0	Apr 131.0-29.0	Dec 129.0-27.5	Apr	112.5	112.5	Eng/Wal (+/-)	68.71	185.88	188.41
			Jun	119.5	119.5	Scotland (%)	-1.40	+16.2	+0.06
							n/a	+18.7	+3.9

193.1	Jun 12.7-12.0	Feb 132.5-29.5	Dec 118.5	113.5	Scotland (p)	n/a	191.89	110.12	*
101.5	Aug 124.5-23.5	Apr 133.5-30.0	Aug 112.0	112.0	Scotland (+/-)	n/a	+10.20	+1.00	*
1 620	Oct 124.2-23.5	Vol 1635	Vol Pig-5 Cattle-0						

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

March 24, 1988

The Conservative MP Patrick Thompson sees new challenges to industry in an economy that has been transformed

Britain's economy has been transformed in the past 10 years. Inflation is under control and the health of industry has been restored. Productivity has been significantly improved and industrial relations have been put on a more constructive footing. As a nation we are now well poised to take advantage of rich and exciting opportunities throughout the world. As oil revenues go into relative decline, our manufacturing performance becomes increasingly important.

We need aggressive salesmanship certainly. But, above all, we need the right numbers of qualified engineers and craftsmen, better educated and trained than ever before, to meet the challenge. The importance of these requirements was recognized when the House of Commons recently held its first debate on engineering for eight years. The House decided that we need to develop engineering performance up to and above the standards of leading industries overseas.

The example of Japan as a challenge was cited by Sir Julian Ridsdale, chairman of the All-Party Group for Engineering Development. It was because of future opportunities for trade that Lord Young of Graffham carried out his recent tour, Opportunity Japan, to spearhead a sales drive by British industry.

Engineering needs an increased proportion of the next generation's brains. Able young people must be convinced that it is at

least as challenging, interesting, socially useful and rewarding as careers undertaken by their peers.

Children from primary schools onwards are learning through problem-solving that engineering is fun. They are linking increasingly with industry locally and are seeing how engineers care for the environment, improve our quality and standard of life, and invent, produce and maintain advanced equipment in hospitals, for example.

One of today's problems is that only 32 per cent of our children stay on in full-time education to the age of 18. Even adding in part-time day release and the Youth Training Scheme, the figure rises to only 60 per cent. By contrast, the staying-on rate in full-time education to the age of 18 is 70 per cent in France, 85 to 90 per cent in the United States and West Germany, and a staggering 96 per cent in Japan.

If world markets go to the best educated workforce, then we have a lot of leeway to make up. Industrial success does not come from a few brilliant leaders or research efforts, but from a team effort at all levels, from the managing director down to the newest recruit and across all the functions of research, development, design, production and marketing.

As someone who has worked in education, I am as conscious as anyone of the need for a broad education that is more than just training for a job. When one sees the enthusiasm of well motivated

Engineering needs the skills as well as all the aggressive selling



creative activity in engineering and understanding of the issues involved.

In conclusion, engineering is crucial for economic and social progress. Engineering firms design, make and support a diverse range of electronic, electrical, optical and mechanical equipment, systems and services. New and improved engineering products and services are the main source of job creation in industries that use those products. Consequently, the importance of engineering to the economy far exceeds its direct employment or its direct contribution to the gross domestic product.

Today's employment in transport, the hotel industry, broadcasting, the entertainment industry and in financial and information services originates from yesterday's engineering innovations. Therefore, tomorrow's jobs in the service industries will depend crucially on new hardware and tools being developed today by engineering.

The Department of Trade and Industry has a new name — the Department for Enterprise — and a new logo. Perhaps that signals a new era for engineering enterprise in this country so that we can compete and succeed to the benefit of all, especially our young people who need the challenge that engineering and creativity can offer.

Patrick Thompson, MP for Norwich North, proposed the Private Member's motion on the engineering industry on March 11

children who feel that studies are relevant, up to date and exciting, one can understand why the Government is promoting fresh types of schools such as city technology colleges to introduce more variety and to improve standards.

Largely as a result of the Women into Science and Engineering campaign the number of women entering university and polytechnic engineering courses has risen from 7.8 per cent to more than 10 per cent in the past four years. But as women are as intellectually capable as men, there is obviously a long way to go.

Universities, too, have been improving their contacts with industry and this will continue to happen in the future. I was pleased to see recently that the Engineering Council, with the Further Education Unit, published a document arguing that companies should identify those "key tech-

nologies" that are likely to have most impact on their future business and should liaise with educational establishments so that they can make regular reviews of technology-based curricula and ensure that course content and methods of learning will be up to date.

For those who wish to succeed, education does not come to a full stop with a degree. Continuing education and training should be every individual's high priority, and it will demand its place on the boardroom agenda of every well run company. Better qualified people are needed not only in engineering itself but also in management of businesses if we are to be innovative and competitive.

A measure of the problem is that the proportion of company directors who have graduate or other professional qualifications is 24 per cent in the UK compared

with 62 per cent in West Germany, 65 per cent in France, and 85 per cent in Japan and the United States.

The Engineering Council has put forward constructive proposals for incorporating business training into the normal career structures of engineers. The proposals involve, in the early years of employment, the development of good communication skills and liaison with other departments.

At a slightly higher level, in supervision and junior management, there are opportunities to motivate other people, to assess their success in meeting targets and to co-ordinate action with other groups within the firm. Many companies do not have the career planning or in-house training to enable engineers to move from their specialisms into management. There is no smooth

progression from one to the other. Trained engineers tend to stay within their own expertise. Business education is seen as an unnecessary or expensive fill so far as they are concerned, and that must change.

If there is one message that the engineering industry should take from the recent engineering debate, it is that our competitors already have those bridges between professional specialists and management, whereas a sizeable proportion of our industry does not. Such links must be built internally. I do not believe that the Government can do that. I hope that people who studied the debate will recognize that the time to start is now.

We need a renaissance in this country in our attitudes to engineering and science. The media has a large responsibility and could do a lot more to promote

ENGINEERING

The European manufacturing plant of Emerson Electric Industrial Controls Division is based in Swindon. Being part of major US-based international organisation, it continues to design, manufacture and service UPS Systems (battery backed power conditioning equipment). These systems are now considered to be an essential computer peripheral in our worldwide market.

Development Engineers

Qualified to at least BSc 2.1 with some experience, you will be working on Power Electronics or Micro P Software and Hardware Systems. Based at Swindon.

Service Engineers

Qualified to at least ONC/OND or equivalent, at least 5 years' experience in an electronic or electrical field service environment is considered an essential element. Based within 20 miles of the 'City'.

If you are interested in either of these types of vacancies, or in the field of CUSTOMER TECHNICAL TRAINING, and would like to work for a world leading company which provides a challenging environment and benefits that match (including relocation where appropriate), then contact us by phoning our 24 hr line, (0793) 615081, leaving your name, address, telephone number and preferred vacancy, or by sending your full CV to: Mr John Cook, Emerson Electric, Elgin Drive, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 6DX.

EMERSON
COMPUTER POWER

SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE ENGINEERS

Neg Sussex Coast World Wide Travel
Singer Link-Miles, an independent market leader in the design of training systems and frequent winner of the Queen's Award for Export and Technological Achievement - is now seeking a number of Senior/Simulation/Modeling specialists.
We are looking for energetic, flexible graduate engineers with between 2-10 years' relevant experience who are willing to become involved in a wide range of disciplines within the project brief. Your experience should preferably be in a real time command and control environment, or one of the following disciplines:

Aircraft Systems-

Navigation & Communication Systems
Flight Systems
Auto-pilot
Flight Management
Control and Performance

Underwater Systems-

Fire Control Systems
Weapon Systems
Torpedo Dynamics
Displays/MIMI Control

You will be working in a development environment targeting latest INTEL 80386 32-bit micro-processors; languages: C and Fortran under UNIX and RMK, with an Ethernet communication system.
In addition to excellent prospects for your long term career progression, we offer competitive salaries and a wide range of benefits plus assistance with the cost of your relocation to this attractive part of the South Coast.

Please send your CV with career details and salary to date, or telephone for an application form to: Terry Edmondson: Singer Link-Miles Ltd, Churchill Industrial Estate, Lancing, Sussex. Tel: (0903) 755881.

SINGER
Link-Miles

Technology Creating Reality

Quality A vital contribution to world class manufacturing

In the field of Telecommunications STC is a market leader both technically and commercially.

Competition is fierce, particularly in world markets, and only through a total commitment to product quality and customer satisfaction will we succeed. In this environment the Quality function provides a key professional service to our manufacturing operation. We now seek to enhance this function with the appointment of the following professional:

Senior Quality Engineer

You will be responsible for the formulation and introduction of capability evaluation processes and statistical controls throughout the manufacturing activity. You will be expected to play a major role in the Company policy of continuing

quality awareness, and as such you should be motivated by the desire to change methods and processes in order to achieve significant quality improvements.

A creative and ambitious Quality professional with 3-5 years' experience in electronic equipment manufacture and a degree level engineering qualification would be an ideal candidate.

In return for the right skills we can offer a salary in the range of £13,000 to £15,000 per annum and other large Company benefits, including generous relocation assistance where appropriate.

To apply, send your C.V. to Anne Stevens, Personnel Officer, STC Telecommunications, Oakleigh Road South, New Southgate, London N11 1HB. Telephone: 01-368 1234, Ext. 2167.

STC TELECOMMUNICATIONS

WATER SUPPLY AND/PURIFICATION ENGINEERS FOR PROJECTS in the USA

Ten years experience in the design of water works, including supply, transmission, distribution and purification. Operating experience at the water works site would be an advantage.

Degree
Bachelor of Science in Engineering (BSc)
Member of the Institution of Engineers and a Chartered Engineer (or presently working towards one).
Camp Dresser & McKee Inc., a leader in environmental engineering, has projects worldwide.
Please respond in writing - indicating your citizenship as:
Human Resources - UK&S

CAMP DRESSER & MCKEE Inc.
One Center Plaza
Boston, MA 02108 USA

CDM
environmental engineers, scientists
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ENGINEERS

GEC Mechanical Handling designs, manufactures and installs sophisticated handling, automated and process systems and products for a wide variety of applications at home and abroad.

A number of opportunities exist to join the expanding teams at our newly established offices at Whetstone (Leicestershire) working on:

Design

Product and systems design and development using original innovative thinking and current analytical techniques.

Tendering

Compilation of tenders ensuring compliance with technical, financial and contractual requirements of both customer and company.

Contract Management

Responsible for the profitable completion of contracts up to multi-million pounds in value from contract award to customer acceptance.

We require applicants with varying levels of qualification and experience (male or female).

We are offering competitive salaries and an attractive benefits package, including relocation assistance where applicable.

GEC is an equal opportunities employer.

Please write with full CV or telephone for an application form to:

Mr M C F Parker
GEC Mechanical Handling Limited
Cambridge Road, Whetstone,
Leicestershire, LE8 3LN.
Telephone: 0533 863434

S&C GEC Mechanical Handling Limited

TECHNICAL MANAGER

Henry Boot Railway Engineering Limited is the largest supplier and installer of railway switches, crossings and associated trackwork to both the domestic and overseas railway market.

In order to maintain its position at the forefront of trackwork technology the Company now seeks to appoint a Technical Manager to take charge of its design and development function.

The successful candidate will assume total responsibility for a team designing the Company's trackwork and associated products with particular reference to major projects and the development of the Company's future business.

Candidates should possess a good degree in an appropriate discipline and will be used to working in a demanding technical environment with emphasis on practical application. It is unlikely that applicants under 30 will have the necessary experience.

This is a senior management post and the conditions of employment will be commensurate with those expected of a large progressive organisation.

Apply in writing in the first instance giving details of relevant experience to:-

R. Beynon
Personnel Manager
Henry Boot Railway Engineering Limited
Callywhite Lane
Dronfield
Sheffield S18 6ZZ.

Henry Boot

COOPERHEAT

FURNACE/OVEN ENGINEER AND FURNACE/OVEN SALESPERSON

Cooperheat (UK) Ltd. is one of the world's leading companies in thermal technology, with special emphasis in the fields of electrical surface heating, furnace manufacture and equipment and services for gas and electrical resistance heat treatments.

These important appointments are within the Projects/Marketing Departments in Southport, directly responsible to the Chief Engineer or U.K. Sales Manager and working closely with the Sales and Operations Division. The Engineer will have responsibility for producing proposals for furnace projects. In addition, the position will require the ability to support sales effort. The Salesperson will be located in the Midlands and be responsible for sales of all the above products.

Candidates should be suitably qualified, be self-motivating and, ideally, have had experience with a furnace/oven manufacturer. Knowledge of controlled atmosphere and continuous furnace/ovens would be an advantage. Knowledge of electrical surface heating would be an advantage for the Salesperson.

The salaries offered will reflect ability and experience.

Applications with full C.V. and salary information should be sent for the attention of:

Mr. D.J. Cottrell
Chief Engineer
COOPERHEAT (U.K.) LTD.,
Fyde Road Trading Estate,
Southport, PR9 9YF

DENHOLM

SHIP MANAGEMENT (UK) LTD GENERAL MANAGER ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE SERVICE

Denholm seek a General Manager capable of developing its Engineering and Maintenance Service to the Offshore Marine and Industrial Sectors.

Denholm have substantial growth plans for this activity both Nationally and Internationally. Candidates will have an Engineering Qualification to Degree level. They will be able to demonstrate a proven track record in managing and Engineering Business, preferably providing services to the Offshore Industry.

The position will be based in Aberdeen and offers a very attractive employment package.

Please send your full C.V., including earnings record, to:

T.D. Underwood,
Chief Executive,
Denholm Ship Management (Holdings) Ltd.
Bowring Building
151 West George Street, Glasgow, G2 2JL

APV Rosista Ltd.

WORLD LEADERS IN PROCESS TECHNOLOGY

APV Rosista is the centre of all UK activities for supplying the Brewery, Beverage and Distilling industries with products and services for the APV Group. PROJECT AND PROCESS ENGINEERS
Several vacancies exist for professionally qualified Mechanical and Chemical Engineers to manage capital projects for customers at home and abroad.

Ideal applicants would be Chartered Engineers aged approx 28-40 with considerable post graduate technical and commercial experience.

Special interest will be shown to those who have worked with food or beverage process plant and knowledge of German would be a considerable advantage.

Initial salary will depend on qualifications and experience.

To apply please send full c.v. to:

Personnel Manager, APV Rosista Limited,
Comstock Road, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL8 4EJ,
Telephone: (0634) 717888

ENGINEERING

*As far as research goes,
Sunbury-on-Thames is the
centre of the world*

As one of Europe's largest and best equipped industrial research centres we have a reputation for excellence across a broad range of research disciplines. An environment which encourages innovation and where experience and talent is both recognised and rewarded.

Automotive Engineers - Gasoline Product Development

Our motor gasoline product development group requires innovative and practical engineers to be responsible for both fundamental and applied research programmes on fuel quality. The ability to respond imaginatively to changing market requirements on an international scale is essential. Ref: 94031

Design Engineer - Polymer Composites

The research team responsible for the development of novel products for our advanced composite business requires a design engineer who must be prepared to use initiative and work in technological areas where no design codes currently exist. Ref: 94013

Development Engineer - Advanced Composites

Our advanced ceramic fibre development project has a career opportunity for a production engineer who will develop and operate pilot scale rigs, design and install automated systems and supervise scale up activities. Ref: 94017

Candidates for these posts should ideally have a good degree in mechanical or chemical engineering and a PhD or relevant research experience.

We offer a highly attractive salary and benefits package, which includes a non-contributory pension scheme and generous relocation assistance (where appropriate). Plus of course one of the most stimulating working environments anywhere.

Please write or telephone for an application form, quoting the appropriate reference, to: Anne Sheppard, BP Research International, Sunbury Research Centre, Chertsey Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, TW16 7LN. Tel: Sunbury-on-Thames (0932) 762028.

BP is an equal opportunity employer.



BP Research International
SUNBURY RESEARCH CENTRE



Scientist/Engineers- Software Development ACQUIRING THE KNOWLEDGE

The Mathematics and Computing Division of the London Research Station is the main centre for the development and support of technical software used by engineers within British Gas. There is also a small team investigating and developing knowledge-based systems. Two key vacancies now exist to participate in the essential work of the Division.

Section Leader £21,811

A graduate with proven managerial and technical ability, you will lead a team of scientists who are developing software which is used to schedule events and to optimise the operation of our national transmission system. These programs calculate the pressures and flows in the grid and then provide the engineer with an optimum strategy for operating the grid. Research into advanced methods of optimum control is also undertaken.

You will be responsible for the team's day-to-day activities, for forging strong links with user departments, for identifying new areas of work and maintaining good links with sponsored research work at universities.

You must have a good degree in mathematics or a related subject and preferably a knowledge of techniques suitable for the design and development of large FORTRAN programs. A minimum of five years' scientific programming experience, ideally at project leader level, is necessary. Ref: LRS/234/G.

Knowledge Engineer to £15,374

A high calibre scientist/engineer, you will work on the development of techniques for the difficult areas of knowledge-based systems, including representation, inferencing and explanation.

Current projects include the development of stand alone knowledge-based systems as well as integrating them with conventional software. A major project involves the use of KEE on a workstation.

You should possess a good honours degree and have the ability to apply modern theoretical techniques to practical problems. A knowledge of either LISP or PROLOG would be an advantage. Ref: LRS/232/G.

For both positions please write for an application form, quoting the appropriate reference number, to: Mr H Myles, Personnel Officer (R&D), British Gas plc, London Research Station, Michael Road, London SW6 2AD.

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British Gas

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BOX NO. DEPT.
P.O. BOX 484,
VIRGINIA STREET,
WAPPING,
LONDON,
E1 9DD.

CHANNEL YOUR ENERGY



THE TUNNEL IS COMING TO LONDON, SOUTHAMPTON & ABERDEEN

As the Channel Tunnel programme evolves, more and more opportunities are arising for people to play a part in the most exciting construction project this century. At present our recruitment needs are centred in the following areas:

TUNNELS, TERMINALS, PLANT & INSHORE MARINE WORK

To make matters easier for those wishing to join us, our recruitment team will be holding interviews in London, Southampton and Aberdeen in the near future. First, however, you should write or telephone for an application form; and we are particularly keen to hear from the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> SITE ENGINEERS	<input type="checkbox"/> QTY. SURVEYORS (all levels)
<input type="checkbox"/> AGENTS	<input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL FOREMEN
<input type="checkbox"/> SUB AGENTS	<input type="checkbox"/> ELECTRICAL FOREMEN
<input type="checkbox"/> M & E ENGINEERS	<input type="checkbox"/> PLANT FOREMEN

For the more senior vacancies we need degree level candidates who have at least two years experience of large diameter tunnelling, major civil products or inshore marine works.

For the Foremen vacancies applicants must possess either formal trade qualifications or have sufficient experience to make formal qualifications unnecessary.

All positions carry an attractive package which includes a competitive salary, company car for the most senior positions, positive assistance with relocation, a living allowance where appropriate and other progressive

company benefits. They also, of course, give you a chance to make a little bit of history.

To channel your energy and career prospects write or phone NOW for an application form (quoting Ref. TML/1007) to: Stewart West, Recruitment Manager, Transmanche-Link, Channel Tunnel Contractors, Translink J.V., U.K. Operations, Shearway House, Shearway Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 4QU. Tel: Folkestone (0303) 78978.

This Company is an equal opportunity employer.

TML

MARKETING/ SALES APPOINTMENT

We are looking for a young enthusiastic professional to provide an important support role in a dynamic marketing group within an established division of Honeywell Control Systems.

You will provide technical and marketing support for the head office group and outside sales organisation. Much of your time will be involved with customer and inter-company liaison and providing necessary advice and training. You must be able to demonstrate good administrative and interpersonal skills plus an ability to assume project responsibility.

This could be your first step to a highly successful career in a high growth organisation. To take advantage of this unique career opportunity, candidates should ideally be graduates, possess an ability to understand and communicate, technical information and have at least two years' experience in a sales and marketing role. Good communication skills, both written and verbal are essential.

Please contact Eileen Williams on Bracknell (0344) 416388 for further details or send your c.v. to Honeywell Control Systems Limited, Honeywell House, Charles Square, Bracknell, Berks. RG12 1EB.

Honeywell

AEROSPACE AT CAMBRIDGE MARSHALL OF CAMBRIDGE (ENGINEERING) LIMITED

Stress Engineers (Section Leader)

Responsible for the control of a group of Stress Engineers and reporting to the Chief Stressman, the successful applicant should be capable of formulating design requirements. Aged 30-45, qualified to H.N.C./Degree level in mechanical or aeronautical engineering, linked with at least eight years relevant experience in aircraft stress analysis.

A knowledge of U.K. and U.S. civil and military requirements is necessary.

Salary and terms and conditions of employment will reflect the importance and potential of these positions. Low cost single accommodation initially available. New housing also available for married applicants under the Company's assisted housing scheme.

Applicants should apply in writing to: Personnel Director, Marshall of Cambridge (Engineering) Limited, Airport Works, Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8RX.

Malaysia airlines

INVITES APPLICATIONS FROM SUITABLY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL FOR APPOINTMENTS IN MALAYSIA AS-

LICENSED AIRCRAFT ENGINEERS

Applicants must be licensed aircraft maintenance engineers in the following categories:-

Category 'A' and/or 'C' - Airframe and/or Engines

Multi Category 'X' - Avionics-Instrument, Auto-Pilot and Composites

and/or

Category 'K' - Electrical

on two or more Aircraft types operated by Malaysia Airlines, Ltd. B747/DC10/A300/B737

QUALITY ASSURANCE INSPECTOR (Power Plant)

Applicants must have had at least 10 years experience as Quality Assurance Inspector in power plant and hold power plant licences on two or more engine types operated by Malaysia Airlines Ltd, RB211-524, GE CF6-50, PWJT9D and PWJT8

Experience in workshop duties involving engine overhaul and repair is desirable.

POWER PLANT ENGINEERS

Applicants must have power plant licences on two or more engine types operated by Malaysia Airlines, Ltd, RB211-52, GE CF6-50, PWJT9D and PWJT8 and must have had at least 10 years experience in various aspects of in power plant shop with in-depth experience in various aspects of engine heavy maintenance, overhaul and modifications work.

Salary

Attractive salary and variable allowances.

Income tax is company's liability.

Fringe Benefits

Generous housing allowance, free medical/dental treatment and hospitalisation for staff and family, six weeks annual leave, free travel on annual leave and generous rebates on other occasions, provident fund contributions, school fees assistance and other service benefits.

Applications to be sent to

Administration Manager

Malaysia Airlines, 25/27 St George Street, Hanover Square, London W1

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01-481 4481

Plant Safety SENIOR ENGINEERS

As a leading independent inspection and consultancy organisation within the UK our Technical Services Division is seeking Mechanical Engineers with design and manufacturing expertise to join our multi-disciplined team of professional engineers in our Head Office in the outskirts of Manchester.

The division provides inspection, design assessment and consultancy services in the field of new construction of boilers (conventional and nuclear), pressure vessels and associated pressure retaining plant for clients projects both in the U.K. and abroad.

Applicants should be qualified to degree standard, have a number of years experience in design and manufacturing of pressure plant and have the capability to work as a member of a highly motivated team.

Familiarity with ASME, BS 5500 and other U.K. and foreign pressure vessel codes would be a distinct advantage.

We offer an excellent salary package including a non-contributory pension scheme and where appropriate assistance towards relocation.

Please reply in writing enclosing a detailed CV to:

Mrs R.A. Donovan, Personnel Officer, PLANT SAFETY LIMITED, Parklands, 825a Wilmslow Road, Didsbury, Manchester M20 8RE.

SENIOR PRODUCTION ENGINEERS

The expanding field of sophisticated electronics is a powerful attraction to experienced professionals. In our Camberley based factory, we're manufacturing cellular radio telephones using state-of-the-art technology and equipment. To help us maintain our position as market leaders we require several Senior Production Engineers.

Qualified to degree level and/or a member of the Institute of Production Engineers. You'll have at least five years' experience in an electronics environment, with knowledge of both conventional and surface mount techniques.

We'll expect you to provide support for a highly sophisticated electronic production unit, which will involve you in the investigation, justification and implementation of new products and processes.

Remuneration will be relative to your experience and in addition, you will enjoy the benefits of forward-thinking organisation. If this is the career move you've been waiting for, contact Kate Martin on (0276) 36166, or send your CV to her at:

Technophone Ltd., Unit 15, Admiralty Way, Southern Trade Centre, Camberley, Surrey GU15 5DT.



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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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MAKING IT IN THE MIDLANDS

Exciting opportunities with the leaders in Systems Integration

The CAP Group plc has an outstanding reputation for quality and innovation in the development of integrated systems worldwide. It is now further expanding its UK business into the Midlands, by opening another office in the Birmingham area.

The new office will focus on systems in the industrial sector, covering three main areas: Corporate Systems, Departmental or Factory Management and Automation. A dynamic team is needed to pave the way towards future success and committed, enthusiastic professionals now have the chance to participate in this exciting new business start-up.

Sales Manager - To £30,000 (Salary)

You will play a major part in the management team, establishing and developing new client relationships. Ambitious and self-motivated, you will relish this challenging role. Local market knowledge and a successful sales record of systems development work are desirable. A company car is provided.

Resources and Staff Manager - To £25,000

With a personnel background, preferably within a systems environment, you will be responsible for the effective control and allocation of resources and the recruitment of a wide range of technical staff. You will also be responsible for staff reviews, career development and office management. Good organisational and communication skills are therefore essential. A company car may be provided.

If you have the drive and initiative to meet the demands of a challenging, but rewarding role with this market leading organisation, call PHIL HARRISON on 021-443 8501 (office hours), or 021-308 4285 (evenings/weekends). Alternatively, write to him at Computer People Midlands, FREEPOST, Alpha Tower, Birmingham B1 1BR.



The System Company

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TODAY, Britain's most exciting daily newspaper, has vacancies in the Display Advertisement Sales Department.

You will most likely be a recent graduate and possess the kind of qualities and character to meet our requirements, namely enthusiasm, energy and dedication. There will be ample scope to capitalise on new business opportunities, and full training will be given to equip you to meet the challenge and demands of this very competitive environment.

Ideally you will reside in London or within easy traveling distance to our bright new offices, adjacent to St. Katherine's Dock.

A progressive career with Britain's most exciting newspaper group and a generous salary scale await the successful applicants.

If you wish to take the first step towards joining this exciting team, call or write enclosing CV to:

JEREMY REED
Advertisement Manager — TODAY
ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT
1 VIRGINIA ST, LONDON E1 9XP

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Who will pay £32,000 to successful people. All these major companies offer good basic salaries, prestige company cars, BUPA, Pension Schemes, and other benefits associated with top companies.

We are also urgently seeking ambitious trainees

To arrange a confidential interview please contact Robin McLaren, Mike Shirley, Tony Glancy or Debbie Reynolds on 01 623 4688 or apply in writing enclosing a CV to:-

Bertram Personnel Group,
Sales & Marketing Division
Unicom House, 58 Houndsditch,
London EC3A 7DL
FAX-01 283 3661



FINANCE HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES

VARIOUS U.K. LOCATIONS * (NEG, BONUS, CAR, ETC.)

We have a history of consistent growth and profitability and have now laid plans to push ahead even further.

To realise our goals we need proven finance house sales professionals who will produce new business leads via local retailers and related business sources.

You will have the opportunity to grow with us if you have at least 2 years outside sales experience and a consistent record of high achievement.

The preferred age range is mid twenties to thirties.

If you match our requirements why not come and talk to us about what we can offer you.

Initially please write, giving details of age, education, work experience and current remuneration package to: Mr J Baker, Personnel Manager, Beneficial Trust Limited, Prudential House, Wellesley Road, Croydon, Surrey CRO 9XY.



Beneficial
Trust & Savings

Micro Focus customers include over one hundred corporate data processing departments, business application vendors and software houses and many computer manufacturers' (OEMs).

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO TURN US ON!

Sales Executive ■ Newbury

Software, productivity tools, etc. Think you can sell products from the leading edge of technology? Feel confident in your ability to represent a leading British company in Software development? Sure you can deal directly and comfortably with clients that rank among the top names in business and industry?

It may sound like a tall order, but then at Micro Focus we do have a very good reputation to look after. We want to be sure that as our Corporate Sales Executive you'll be able to start as we mean to go on.

To have a ready understanding of the work environment you'll be, or have been, successfully selling software and be able to work as part of an integrated team. Ideally you'll have some programming ability.

For the right individual the rewards are fast coming:-

- Salary OTE £26k (very achievable) + SBI
- Stock option
- Modern lively environment
- Excellent facilities
- The satisfaction of working for an internationally renowned company.

Plus other benefits including PPP, generous holiday entitlement and pension scheme, free restaurant and car parking facilities and a competitive relocation package (if necessary).

As we've said, based at our Newbury Offices you'll be looking after our major clients, so there'll be no cold calling.

All you'll need to be is very hot.

Please send your full CV to our Consultant: Debbie Collier, AJD Recruitment, Bourton Grange, Bourton, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN6 8HZ. Telephone: (0793) 783444 or phone her today between 10am and 1pm on the above office number.

MICRO FOCUS



Business Development Manager: Japan The City

Since its inception 5 years ago, The London International Financial Futures Exchange - LIFFE - based at the Royal Exchange in the City of London, has established itself as one of the world's leading markets for trading international financial futures and options contracts.

This new position, reporting to a Director of Business Development, will promote the growth of Japan-related business on the Exchange and, in particular, the use of LIFFE's Japanese Government Bond futures contract. Close working contact will be maintained with the Japanese members of LIFFE as you research, develop and implement business, marketing and education strategies geared to the Japanese market.

Applicants must have appropriate work experience within the financial industry. While demonstrable ability in the Japanese language is desirable, it is not essential.

A good remuneration package is available including the use of a company car, 3 weeks' holiday, PPP membership, and a non-contributory pension scheme.

Please send a comprehensive CV to Helen Jenkins, Personnel Manager, LIFFE, The Royal Exchange, London EC3V 3PJ.

The London International Financial Futures Exchange



Consultancy Opportunities for the select few

Benton and Bowles Selection has recently been created to complete the range of recruitment services offered by D'Arcy Masius Benton and Bowles, one of the world's leading communications companies.

With offices in London and Bristol, our new selection agency complements the Otteridge search consultancy and the award winning recruitment advertising agency, both of whom work closely with some of the most prestigious names in business and industry.

We have already worked on a number of impressive assignments in many different market sectors, and we're now seeking to develop our position in this highly competitive field.

We're looking for two graduates, aged probably 26-34, who have already gained at least 2 years' experience in recruitment consultancy and who are now looking for a real opportunity to build on their commitment and genuine ability. We are particularly interested in hearing from those with successful track records in the computers and communications, finance and city, high-tech or retail fields.

Successful candidates can realistically anticipate earnings of £30,000 p.a. and more with our open-ended commission scheme. In addition we are offering a company car, health care, life assurance and pension plan. For further information about the positions, which will give you a real opportunity to develop your skills in a young expanding company, please write in confidence with full career details to David Konrath, Director, at the address below, or call him on 01-225 2171.



197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RP

SOUTH EAST TRAINING

South East Training is a managing agent for a large multi-employer training scheme in London for both the Youth Training Scheme and the Job Training Scheme. Particular emphasis is placed on providing work-based training for unemployed young people and adults living in inner South London.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE MANAGER
YTS (£10,920-£13,520 - REVIEW IN APRIL 88) GRADE 4

This is a new, exciting and challenging post within SET's Senior Management Team. Working closely to the Chief Executive, responsibilities include:-

- * Management of the administration group.
- * Development and operation of:-
 - Financial control systems.
 - Computerisation of administrative systems.
 - Personnel systems.
 - Purchasing and maintenance systems.
- * Acquisition and management of premises.
- * Assisting the Chief Executive in a wide variety of projects.

An efficient person with a flair for leading a team and developing and running systems in an expanding organisation is required.

To find out more please contact: Rosina Ali on 01-928 9188 for a job description and application form, or write to her at: South East Training, Tress House, 3-7 Stamford Street, London SE1 9NT.

The Appointment is also open to secondee. Closing date: 8th April 1988

SET is an equal opportunities employer.

THE BERTRAM GROUP COMPUTER SALES DIVISION

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£70K O.T.E.

We can put you in touch with these Clients

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CONTACT NICOLA HODGES ON 01 623 4688 NOW!

FORMERLY CITY RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
Belcora House
58 Houndsditch
LONDON EC3A 7DL



The Royal College of Midwives
15 Mansfield Street, London W1M 0BE
Tel. 01-580 6523/4/5 & 01-637 8823

SENIOR FULL-TIME OFFICIAL

The successful candidate will be the senior of two officers responsible for representing practising midwives in three English health authorities and, following a recent increase in staffing, will be a member of a team of ten officers negotiating at both local and national level. The position is based at the RCM's headquarters in London. She/he will have the necessary industrial relations skills and experience to represent midwives, both as individuals and collectively, at health authority and industrial tribunal levels. An NHS background would be an advantage.

The salary scale, currently £16,421 to £19,691 pa, is due to be revised from 1 April 1988.

The RCM represents more than 80 per cent of practising midwives in the NHS, with membership standing at its highest ever level: more than 30,000.

For informal visits/enquiries, contact Miss Sheila McIlroy, Director of Industrial Relations, on 01-580 6523 ext. 220. Further details and an application form may be obtained from the Administrative Officer at the above address or on 01-580 6523 ext 215.

Closing date : 18 April 1988

Company Secretarial Assistant

Granada Group PLC is a market leader in the leisure industry with a turnover in excess of £1bn.

Due to internal promotion, we have a vacancy in the Group Company Secretarial Department at Head Office in Central London.

Reporting to the Company Secretary, the successful applicant will be involved in the full range of company secretarial duties including computerised records and administration of share schemes, with increasing emphasis on legal and contractual work.

Candidates should either be qualified members of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators or Solicitors/Barristers wishing to transfer to commerce.

An excellent salary package is offered, with the benefits associated with a major company.

Written applications, with a full CV should be sent to Vicky Hemming (Ms), Personnel Manager, Granada Group PLC, 36 Golden Square, London W1R 4AH.

GRANADA



An equal opportunity employer

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

Together we'll make arrangements to apply IT more effectively

... to projects and IT departments

Computers and Telecommunications is part of the PA Consulting Group, the largest technology and management consultancy in the UK and Western Europe.

A major feature of our work in information technology is advising clients on how to use IT more effectively to meet their business requirements, and helping them to do so. This is the role of our Operational Consulting Group.

We are looking for additional IT professionals to complement our teams based in London, Manchester, Birmingham, Glasgow and Edinburgh, who are involved primarily in two main areas of IT:

* **IT Project Management:** Working closely with a prestigious range of clients, on many of the largest and most technically demanding IT projects in the country, from feasibility study and design stage to successful implementation and handover. You must have experience across a wide range of projects, and an outstanding record of achievement and technical competence.

* **Performance Improvement in the IT department:** cost effectiveness, quality and capacity management, software engineering and standards. Your strong IT background could have been gained as an IT Manager or as a senior technical specialist in one or more of the above-mentioned areas.

For all positions you should be in your late 20s to mid-30s, qualified to degree level, and have worked with an IT supplier, a major IT user, or other consultancies.

Vacancies exist at both Consultant and Senior Consultant level.

The remuneration package, negotiable up to £40,000, will reflect experience and qualifications; a range of attractive benefits includes a car and BUPA. Excellent career prospects are linked to personal achievement.

Please send your cv, in confidence, to Linda Gordon, Ref: 3/142, PA Consulting Group, Computers and Telecommunications, Rochester House, 33 Greycoat Street, London SW1P 2QF.

PA is an equal opportunity employer

PA
Computers and
Telecommunications

RAFOFFICER CAREERS FOR GRADUATES

Your degree can not only help you earn a commission in the RAF, but give you the opportunity to get more management experience at an early age than you will find in civilian life. Within months of joining the RAF, you'll be given responsibilities that are vital to the defence of Britain and our NATO allies. You'll be taught to lead and to manage teams of highly skilled professionals to keep our Stations running smoothly and to ensure that our airspace is protected 24 hours a day.

There are dozens of different careers available in the RAF right now, for men and women who would enjoy doing a job which is more exciting and rewarding than just about any other career.

A commission in the RAF can be for as little as three years in the Ground Branches. But from Aircrew, we expect at least six years' productive service. (It costs nearly three million pounds to train one Pilot.) Longer commissions are also available in all Branches. With the exception of Aircrew, most posts are open to both men and women.

PILOT & NAVIGATOR

It takes two to fly a Tornado. The Pilot concentrates on getting where you're going fast. The Navigator concentrates on what you're doing, choosing the weapons systems and the Electronic Counter Measures you'll need. Together, you make the Tornado one of the most effective weapons in NATO's vital front-line defence.

If you already know something about flying, that's great. If you don't, we'll teach you everything you need to know for your part in the Tornado's double-act. For instance, we'll take a Pilot from flying a Chipmunk on to a Jet Provost. Then to a Hawk and on to a Tornado GRI travelling at 250 feet at high speed.

To apply to join the RAF as a Pilot or Navigator you must be at least 17. The upper age limit for Pilots on entry is 24, and for Navigators 28.

ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

If you've an interest in the very latest technology, we'll give you the chance to work with some of the world's most sophisticated computer hardware and software and radar systems. Our computer-driven mobile radar system, for example, provides high-speed identification through the use of solid-state and 3D techniques with phased array antennas and has a self-diagnosing fault tracer.

From telecommunications and ground-based navigational aid to airborne early warning and satellite communications, the RAF relies on its Electronic Engineers to make sure that all our hardware and software remains the state-of-the-art.

Age on entry up to 39.

FIGHTER CONTROL

Become the eyes and ears of Britain's first line of defence. You'll lead a team whose job is to identify and monitor every aircraft in the

The Armed Forces are Equal Opportunity Employers under the terms of The Race Relations Act 1976.

sector for which it is responsible. If potentially hostile or unidentified aircraft enter our airspace, you'll give our interceptor aircraft the order to scramble and you will guide our aircraft onto the target.

You'll be in charge of highly advanced radars and computers, operating from the air or from the ground and tracking any air threat, from low-flying aircraft to satellites.

You may also be given the highly specialised training required to maintain and develop the extremely sophisticated software which is the heart of our air defence system.

Age on entry normally up to 30.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION

The RAF needs men and women now to train as Officers in the Photographic Interpretation Branch. You will be trained to analyse air reconnaissance imagery and to lead teams of skilled NCOs in order to provide commanders with the intelligence information needed to develop and carry out their battle plans.

The RAF aircraft which provide your data use both conventional and extremely unconventional sensor equipment to produce the images your team will analyse and decode. You'll gain a wide knowledge of intelligence matters too. Photographic Interpretation work in the field is carried out by the RAF for all the armed forces.

Age on entry 17½ to 30 for men and 18 to 30 for women.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

The main requirement in the Education Specialisation is for graduates in engineering, mathematics, physics and computer science, preferably with a post-graduate certificate in Education or with some teaching experience. But we can also teach you how to teach.

Other degrees will also be considered, particularly foreign languages.

The job is to keep our key personnel up to date with the latest advances in electronics, computer technology, radar and electrical engineering. You'll help to construct and manage training programmes and teach in some of the best equipped training schools in the country with students who are eager to learn. Age on entry up to 39.

WHAT NOW?

The qualifications needed to join the RAF vary according to the Branch in which you are interested.

If you are studying for 'A' levels and planning to go to university, ask us about RAF Sponsorships.

To find out more, write to Group Captain Peter Canning, at (OL) Officer Careers (09/21/03), Stanmore HAT 4PZ, giving your date of birth and your present and/or intended qualifications. Or call at any RAF Careers Information Office (in the phone book under Royal Air Force).

Age on entry up to 39.

Company Secretarial Administrator

£19,000

Basingstoke

The AA is one of Britain's largest service-based organisations, with strengths in insurance, publishing, travel, retailing and other fields as well as over 8 million members utilising the famous roadside and other motoring services.

Reporting to the Assistant Group Secretary, the responsibilities of the Company Secretarial Administrator cover the entire range of AA Group Companies as well as the AA Committee, Sub Committees and the AA Group Directorate.

Specific responsibilities include the preparation of agendas for and minutes of meetings, arranging attendance for guests and committee members and submitting statutory returns under the Companies Act 1985, Insurance Companies Act 1982 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974. In addition, letters and speaking

notes must be prepared for the Group Secretary and Assistant Group Secretary.

Candidates should be Chartered Secretaries with at least 2 years' post-qualifying experience of working within a substantial commercial environment. Well-developed oral and written communication skills should also be displayed.

In addition to a salary of £19,000 with attractive benefits including life assurance cover, pension plan and health insurance, we offer very real prospects for career development. An excellent relocation package is also available where appropriate.

Please write, with a comprehensive CV, to the Manager, Management Recruitment at the address below, or telephone for further details on (0256) 493071.

AA

THE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION, FANUM HOUSE, BASING VIEW, BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE RG21 2EA.

Contracts Adviser

City

up to £18,500

Each year The International Stock Exchange enters into numerous contracts with a large variety of organisations, companies and individuals. This represents a substantial financial commitment.

A small number of contract professionals, who work closely with line managers and in-house lawyers, ensure that each contract is properly constructed and legally sound.

Due to an increasing work load and the growth of complex contracts, particularly in the area of computer systems and the supply of information, a new position has been created for a Contracts Adviser to work alongside the Contracts Manager within the Legal Services department.

As the selected candidate, your primary role will be to advise on and to review third party contracts for acceptability and to ensure, by amendment and negotiation, that they properly

Please reply with full c.v. and current salary details to:

Christine Jordan,
The International Stock Exchange
of the United Kingdom and
the Republic of Ireland Limited,
Personnel Department, Old Broad Street,
London EC2M 1HP

takes account of the ISE's needs. You will deal appropriately with any legal exposure which might arise and draft from scratch non standard contracts where necessary.

For this key appointment you will ideally have had several years experience within the contracts function of a large 'hi-tech' organisation, advising on terms and conditions, as well as having gained particular understanding of contract and intellectual property law and its application. A Business Studies or Law degree is desirable.

Important personal attributes will be resourcefulness, the ability to establish priorities and take responsibility as well as having the communication skills to advise senior managers effectively on intricate issues.

Benefits include non-contributory pension scheme, free season ticket, BUPA and relocation assistance where appropriate.



A market in progress



Australia

ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT

INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT MANAGER

Manage Our Global Network

Our Environment

OTC is Australia's international telecommunications carrier and is at the forefront of telecommunications development and innovation. OTC markets a comprehensive and internationally competitive range of services, including private network services and facilities, and new state-of-the-art satellite, video, text and data services. In order to operate competitively and effectively in our international environment OTC is increasing its network capacity and pursuing new business strategies. OTC's overall aim is to maintain one of the most technically sophisticated networks in the world and become the "provider of choice" for our multi-national customers.

OTC competes with other overseas carriers in the market for business customers seeking a "hub" for their Pacific Basin communications. Some of the top US, European and Japanese corporations now use Australia and OTC facilities as a switching hub for their private global networks.

The Career Challenge

The dimensions of this newly created position include responsibility for International Account Management in the United Kingdom, Europe, and the management of customer support programmes.

The Person

The successful candidate will have a proven track record in account management, and sales knowledge and/or experience in marketing technical services; the ability to plan measurable objectives with preferably some knowledge of the telecommunications or computing industries. Relevant tertiary qualifications would be well regarded. The selected applicant must be willing to undertake familiarisation training of approximately 4 weeks duration in Sydney, Australia.

The Benefits

Based in London W1, the position would be offered on a two year fixed term contract basis with remuneration in the range 20,000 - 25,000 pounds. OTC is an equal opportunity employer and specific details of employment conditions will be discussed at interview.

For further information on this exciting career challenge please contact Daryl Smith on London (01) 491 3324. Applications, closing 8th April 1988, should provide details of your qualifications, employment history, achievements, present position and salary, and be addressed to:

OTC Australia
19 Stratford Place
London W1N 9AF
United Kingdom

Recruitment Consultant

WC1 1st year earnings
£15,000-£20,000

Since our launch in February 1987, Alderwick Peachell and Partners are already acknowledged as market leaders in Accountancy and Financial recruitment. We are currently planning the opening of new offices in 1988/89 thus creating exceptional promotion prospects.

We currently seek a Junior consultant, aged between 23-28, either currently working in recruitment or in sales. Full internal and external training is provided in all aspects of the role including interview technique, marketing, interpersonal and management skills.

Promotion to full Consultant expected within 3 months.

Contact BARRIE PALLEN to apply on 01-404 3155 at ALDERWICK PEACHELL & PARTNERS, 125 High Holborn, London WC1V 6QA.

Alderwick
Peachell
& PARTNERS LTD

Senior Sales Executive

Prestige Office Furniture

LONDON & HOME COUNTIES

c. £16k + quality car

W. J. White Limited are long established designers and manufacturers of prestige office furniture more usually found in boardrooms and executive offices of major companies.

As part of our current expansion we are now looking to attract a young Sales Executive to join the Company and be responsible for developing and expanding our client base, primarily through Architectural and Interior Design practices, but also directly with major Central London companies. In addition to proven sales experience of office furniture, the key requirements are pronounced commercial awareness, the ability to negotiate proficiently at all levels and the ambition to succeed.

We see this as a career opportunity and very much a 'company position'; we are therefore offering an initial salary (not commission) negotiable around £16,000 p.a. plus a quality car.

Graduates are particularly invited to apply for this challenging position.

In the first instance, please send a C.V. to: Richard Craig, W. J. White Ltd., Rivermead Drive, Windsor, Wilts. SN5 7XU.

WJW

International Trading on the phone and face to face

£20K package plus

Our client, IBP Inc. part of a giant U.S. corporation wants an individual who can clinch major international deals in agricultural products that are a basic commodity of life in the West.

Similar to a commodity trading operation but more diverse, you will also target and contact new sales prospects.

As a member of an enthusiastic, compact team based in Piccadilly you'll spend about 25% of your time in mainland Europe so fluency in at least French and/or Italian is a key qualification.

Possessing an entrepreneurial instinct coupled with presence, integrity and proven

international sales expertise, you'll be under 30 and as efficient in administration follow-up as you are in initial contact.

On top of the salary we've quoted, there's a bonus that could range from the acceptable to the lavish, with equally attractive additional benefits. Career-wise, there's every opportunity to move into a management role in the U.S. or Europe.

If you're interested, please write quoting ref. 767/PB/88 with a copy of your C.V. to Paul Ballard, Austin Knight Selection, 17 St. Helen's Place, London EC3A 6AS or telephone him on 01-628 5021 (01-256 6925 evenings/weekends).

ibp

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

£20K + OTE

Richmond based

KPG in Richmond are seeking self-motivated and enthusiastic professionals who wish to fulfil their career ambitions in our rapidly expanding Systems & Programming Division. If you have recruitment agency, sales or computer experience please call.

Edward Jensen on
01-948-5922

ADMINISTRATOR - SW1

6 Month Contract
£20,000 pro rata

Our Client urgently seeks someone to help them move office in West London. Previous experience in Premises Management coupled with the personality to organise and get things done essential. Age 30-50. Call

Lane Jeffers on 408-1881

Middleton Jeffers

HANDYMAN WANTED URGENTLY

to work in W1 area.
Salary negotiable.
Phone Anne Marie
for details
01 487 3462.

SPANISH SPEAKING PERSON

Urgently required for busy City
Certain clerical duties necessary.
Ideal opportunity for the right
person.
Salary Negotiable.
Please Write to Barry Thompson
Call Box
101 London First Exchange
LONDON E1

THE PERSONNEL MANAGER'S YEARBOOK 1988

The definitive Contact Source for Job Seekers
Find out the names of the person in charge of recruitment
in the U.K.'s leading 4,000 companies. The Directory also
contains comprehensive details of over 1,000 executive
search agencies. Geographical and Activity Indexes.
740pp. Price £30.00 inc. p&p. Available from:
AP Information Services Ltd., 33 Ashbourne Avenue,
London NW11 0DU. Tel: 01-488 1607

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

THE SEARCH STOPS
HERE!
£14,000

When you join the Executive Search arm of this international Management Consultants based in SW1 your experience in the Information Technology industry will be put to full use. As a vital member of this professional, fun and hard working team, you will provide a comprehensive research facility including investigating prospective candidates, reporting back to consultants on market trends within the industry and occasionally accompanying consultants on client visits. The successful applicant will be a confident and enthusiastic graduate with sound experience in the Information Technology sector. Age 25-35. Please call 434 4512.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SALES REPRESENTATIVE (Greater London)

If you have at least two years proven track record selling commercial stationery and/or print direct to end users, and are looking to develop your career, you could be the sort of person we are looking for.

JUNIOR SALES REPRESENTATIVE

We are looking for enthusiastic people to join our sales team in Greater London. Experience in a selling environment is preferable but not essential as training will be given to suitable applicants.

K.J. HEALEY LTD

7 Chingford Industrial Centre, Hall Lane, London E4 8DJ
Fax: 01-529 7110 Telephone: 01 529 8800
Complete office supplies.

Chief Executive
up to £30,000

The present Chief Executive is retiring in 1988. The Council is looking for a general manager to lead the Authority through the challenge of the 1990's. This is a demanding post which will require complete dedication well beyond the duties and Conditions of Service as laid down.

We expect applicants to demonstrate a good management track record and possess leadership, communication and people-related skills.

In turn South Shropshire, with its main centre at Ludlow, can offer you a quality of life and environment which could be considered unique in the British Isles.

Application form and details may be obtained from G. Kellet, Chief Executive, Stone House, Corve Street, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1DG. Telephone: Ludlow (0584) 5015.

Closing date for applications is noon, Monday, 11th April 1988.

Interviews will be held on 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th May 1988.

South Shropshire District Council

SENIOR MARKETING MANAGER

£25,000 + car

An established office equipment co. working as agents for Blue Chip co. seeks a person with related exp to plan and implement new business policies within the commercial market. Personal exp coupled with creative ideas and a desire to succeed is essential. Contact Mike Debo.

CONFERENCE PRODUCER

£25,000 + profit share + car

This leader in the field of producing visual communication programmes and conferences with a long list of outstanding successes, now seeks and additional producer. Relative experience essential and qualifications in graphic design/media studies and/or film/videos would be preferable. Contact Derek East.

DIRECT SALES MARKETING MANAGER

£20,000 + bonus + car

Recognised as a leader in the field of Direct Sales of household furniture, our client is seeking a graduate 30+ with minimum three years' exp in Direct Marketing. Preference will be given to candidates with Tele-Marketing exp with a Blue Chip co. Contact Derek East.

Stockton Associates, Advertising and Marketing Recruitment Consultants, 36-38 Glasshouse Street, London W1R 5RH, Tel 01-734 8763/2693.

SENIOR
SALES
APPOINTMENT
£20,000 +
substantial bonus

Our client requires a senior salesman to open up markets for Micro- computer software in Companies, Banks and the Government. Ideal candidate will have university degree. 5 years experience, demonstrated ability to sell to large organisations. Detailed knowledge of software not required. Excellent opportunity to work in small, institutionally financed company located in Central London.

Contact H&L Associates,
23 Haymarket, SW1.
(01 930 1750)

ADVERTISING
SALES
ON TARGET
EARNINGS
£40K p.a.

The launch of a series of major international titles has created opportunities for effective ambitious sales people. If you are able to talk to senior executives in a professional and convincing manner then we would like to talk to you.

There are likely to be early management opportunities for the most successful applicants. In the first instance please call David Conway or Ben Crocker on 01-240 1515

COULD YOU CREATE AND MANAGE
THE COUNTRYSIDE BOOKSHOP?

Entrepreneurial spirit sought to create from scratch and then manage The Countryside Bookshop, a specialist bookshop to be located in the West End of London.

The Countryside Bookshop will specialise in new and second-hand books, maps, periodicals and prints concerned with the British countryside and related topics.

Initial duties will entail overseeing the refurbishment and shopfitting of the retail premises, opening accounts with suppliers, devising stock control and accounting systems, recruiting staff and initiating marketing and advertising activity. Subsequently, you will be expected to run and manage

The Countryside Bookshop as if it were your own business.

All necessary funding is readily available, as are the retail premises. The successful candidate will receive an excellent salary and a share of profits in return for total commitment to the project. Experience and familiarity with books and the selling of them is vital, as is an enduring love and knowledge of the British countryside.

Please send details, including past experience and current position and salary to:

Felix Dennis,
39 Goodge Street, London W1P 1FD

SALES EXECUTIVE

To strengthen the compact and expert sales and marketing team of a long established contract cleaning company serving prestige clients in London and the South East.

Must be an experienced Sales Person preferably in service industry. Domestic location Greater London or Mid-Sussex, advantageous. Age 25+. OTE £15,000+. Company Car, pension and OP expenses. C.V. to our contact for application form:

Maria Orwell,
Strand Cleaning Services,
265-267 Lordship Lane, London SE22 8JQ
Telephone: 01 693 6171

CONVEYANCING
LEGAL
EXECUTIVES

Required for small friendly practice in Swanley in Kent. Salary negotiable. Substantial Bonus. Telephone Mr Akers on 0322 - 80817

HOW WELL CAN
YOU SELL?

First, sell us your experience and personality. Must be sales orientated. Help us sell some of Central London's most desirable residential properties from Marylebone to Hyde Park.

You will respond well to the challenge of selling your own

territory - and advance accordingly.

Good salary and commission and

progressive bonus. Contact your

manager you will do well.

Apply to David Smith

Robert Irving & Sons

10 Clarendon Street

London W1R 1AT

Telephone 01-734 7477.

NEGOTIATOR

required for hectic WC2 Letting/Management Co. Ability to liaise with clients and keep smiling when under pressure essential. Phone Miss Poll 240 7988.

ADMINISTRATOR

required to work in West End language school. Responsibilities for admin, bookkeeping, and general office work. Friendly environment. £7,500 p.a. Phone Linda 01 691 5005.

MANAGER

required for busy West End language school. Experience in teaching and marketing essential. Call 01-690 5693 for further details.

WE NEED A SPECIALIST

for London based TV company. Requirements: university degree, minimum of 3 years experience, 1 year in TV, production, computer programming, editing, work experience in USA, portfolio. Write to Lauren Mann, Personnel Consultant, Production Line, 100 Victoria Road, West India Dock, E14 6PL.

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Part-Qualified Accountants • Investment/Project Appraisal

Retail
Banking

Retail banking in the UK continues to go from strength to strength. Our client, at the forefront of this market, is one of the "Big 4" clearing banks with almost 2,000 branches nationwide and substantial international business interests including trade finance, treasury products and global investment banking.

At the core of the business the bank's commitment to information technology is a vital element in achieving its business strategy. To this end they require high calibre part-qualified accountants for the financial evaluation and control of major IT projects. This involves developing project financial control systems using complex micro-based models, providing project information and reports for planning and control and establishing cost apportionment methods.

These roles, based in the City, provide an excellent opportunity to gain wide ranging accounting experience in a fast-moving and challenging environment.

As well as the above Investment/Project appraisal positions, the bank also has a number of opportunities within other parts of its finance function which are moving from the City to the West Country in 1989.

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HORIZONS

a guide to
career development

Young cubs on the scent

An Australian journalist's view of our news training

To commemorate Australia Day on January 26, in our Bicentennial year, I was prepared to drink copious amounts of Foster's lager while eating mountains of Vegemite sandwiches with my 16 classmates and lecturers from at least a dozen different countries.

I celebrated Thanksgiving for the first time on the last Thursday in November. The turkey and vegetables prepared by one of the Americans in our class were eagerly eaten by the same group, giving the meal an international flavour.

That's part of the magic of studying overseas with foreign students — the sharing of traditions, cultures and ideas. All of the 17 students, of which I am one, studying for a Master's degree in journalism at the University College, Cardiff, are working journalists in their own country. We work for newspapers, news agencies, magazines, television and radio in Sweden, Switzerland, the United States, Greece, China, Hong Kong, Korea, Zimbabwe, Liberia, Tanzania and Australia.

The course is a blend of theory and practical journalism; a balance of academic lectures and student seminars, which draw on our background, problems and knowledge, within the framework of our country's media.

But with any overseas experience, I think it is the people who you remember more clearly, not the buildings or hillsides. Likewise with this year's study. Obviously, our appreciation of the British media will depend enormously, and our media knowledge will expand, through reading books, attending lectures and writing essays. But after the bound thesis has started to gather dust on the bookshelf at home and the framed university parchment which hung prominently in the study has been replaced with a photograph of the grandchildren, it will be the people on the course and the shared experiences which will be remembered — not the actual work.

Perhaps for a journalist that's not a bad thing. The more diverse my experience, the wider my perspective will be. The university terms are for teaching, certainly, but not for temperance. It's a year of travelling, talking and tackling our profession.

We have been both enlightened and amazed at how cosy is the relationship between government and the British media. After studying the lobby system, some of our class from socialist countries — whose media is government-run — have remarked on the close similarities between their system of reporting and Britain's, which is supposedly a free press.

We overseas journalists concluded that the media here is not critical enough of government, especially in newspapers. There is not the uneasiness in the relationship which is common to other

countries. For example, in Australia, newspapers have run strong campaigns against the government on its assets test proposal, fringe benefits tax and capital gains legislation. British broadcasters seem to have a more firm adherence to impartiality while newspapers have a warm disposition towards Mrs Thatcher's Government.

Britain moves slowly and secretively. Apart from government obsession with official secrets (Tisdall, Ponting, Zircon and Peter Wright) in recent years, British people often keep to themselves, anyway. Perhaps it is something to do with the climate, which makes people huddle under a rug to keep warm. Less of their bodies are physically exposed, making it harder for them to expose their personalities.

My classmates and I, who come from more dynamic countries, have been

British ingrained secrecy and deference come

as a shock to young Commonwealth

media trainees, who nevertheless prize the experiences and tuition gained at our colleges,

says David Crocker

frustrated with university and halls of residence bureaucracy, the inability of bus drivers to give change for a fare, the closure of post offices at lunchtime, and the inevitable queuing for everything from telephone calls, returning library books to selecting supper at a Ritz ball.

Many of my classmates, while not having to finance the £3,690 tuition fee from their own pockets, have made enormous sacrifices by leaving husbands, wives and children at home. Many of us had never been to Britain before, nor been away from home for Christmas, nor seen snow.

Acclimatizing to the country, customs and frequency of queues has been as much of a problem as changing my writing style to fit in with academia. It's no good writing a colour feature story for a 2,500-word essay. The examiner wants facts, footnotes and bibliography — not fancy phrases and breakout pieces. Academic writing is a style on its own and many in my class are not too familiar with it.

Brian Wilson, a former Cardiff journalism student, now a Scottish MP, spoke to us on his experiences in establishing an independent weekly

newspaper and the gains he made in doing something radical with his journalism. Professor John Tebbel, formerly of New York University, spoke on the US press and its relationship to the President.

The White House press rooms, including one built over Jimmy Carter's disused swimming pool, have a staff of 500, churning out a 24-hour wire service. Professor Tebbel exposed the extent of the president's propaganda machine and how journalists, acting as public relations staff, stage manage all the president's public appearances. I felt disturbed. The American system of government, which embraced television politics with open arms, has ended up with the inevitable — an actor playing the part of a president.

The course work, which covers the first two terms, includes study into British society and the mass media since 1945, theoretical approaches to mass communications studies and the global context of mass media.

The third term is devoted to a 20,000-word dissertation on a media topic of my choice which relates to my community. (The university runs free language courses for students who wish to improve their English).

This postgraduate degree course is designed for working journalists. The university, quite sensibly, recognizes that many senior journalists do not have a first degree. University regulations permit students who have sufficient experience as a journalist and are older than 30 to be awarded the master's degree in journalism studies.

My reference to the value of travelling as opposed to teaching is not to undermine the value of the instruction or the instructors at University College. It is important that we pass this course. Careers may depend on it. High expectations of employers and, in some Third World countries, governments would be terribly deflated if a degree did not result at the end of the one-year course.

I believe the value of what is learnt from text books must be balanced by what is gained over a quiet ale with a fellow journalist who comes halfway round the world and works in a different media system from me.

Learning from him the problems of government censorship, production and distribution of his media may be just as useful as reading about it in a library book. The two forms of learning must complement each other.

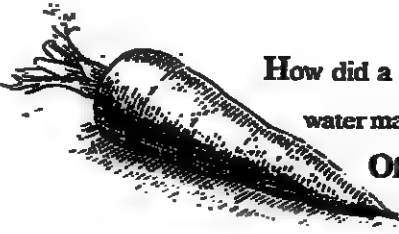
For many of us, this year will be our last chance, possibly forever, to travel extensively in Britain and the Continent. It is an opportunity I do not want to pass me by.

David Crocker is studying for a Master's degree at University College, Cardiff.

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MERCHANT BANKING To £22,000 + Car City	The creation of a strong finance team has necessitated the early recruitment of a young qualified accountant. Ideally seeking your first move into the finance sector this broad role will expose you to control accounts, spreadsheets, budgets and leasing. Line prospects in medium term. Ref: AN.430
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UK REGIONAL AUDITOR To £20,000 + Car City	Successful UK printing company seeks an enthusiastic young qualified accountant. The job involves 10-15 visits UK travel with occasional international assignments. The position carries an unusually high profile and the successful applicant will be expected to submit reports to very senior personnel. Ref: JPB.54

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Please write with CV or phone:

R.J. Landers, Personnel Services Manager,

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The seminar is free, and will involve the companies shown below. The accent is very much on a relaxed evening, and you are free to visit each client's stand or chat to one of our consultants. There will be a champagne reception and we will be showing our career planning video, in which Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones marvel at the range of opportunities available in their own inimitable style.

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C.V. in the first instance to Miss Carolyn Benjamin,
Alfred Marks Accountancy, 112 Strand, London WC2.

TEL: 01-379 0550

LEGAL NOTICES

Continued from page 17

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE
FOLLOWING COMPANY
VICTOR L. LEE
(SOLICITORS) LIMITED
(In receivership)

COMPANY NUMBER: 1665794
On 23 March 1988, the above
named company was placed
into receivership by the
receivers' voluntary liquidator
Jameson City Auditors
of Price Waterhouse, 101
London Avenue, London, EC1A
4JL. The liquidator is
acting under the provisions of
Rule 4.1(2) of the Insolvency
Rules 1986 that the
creditors of the above
company must send details, in writing,
of any claims they have against
the company to the liquidator
by the date of the meeting of
creditors to be held on 27 April 1988.
The liquidator also gave
notice under the provisions of
Rule 4.1(2) of the Insolvency
Rules 1986 that on 27 April 1988,
creditors who have submitted
claims by 20 April 1988, and
there will be no further distribution
to creditors.

The company is able to pay all
known creditors in full.
Dated this 23rd day of March
1988
J.P. Barker - Liquidator

IN THE MATTER OF
STUDIO VISION LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE
INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT
the creditors of the above named
company, which is being wound
up, are required to send in their
claims and particulars of their
debts or claims, and the names
and addresses of their solicitors
if any, to the undersigned,
Liquidator, by the date of the
meeting of creditors to be held
on 27 April 1988 at 10.30 am.
The liquidator is also giving
notice under the provisions of
Rule 4.1(2) of the Insolvency
Rules 1986 that on 27 April 1988,
creditors who have submitted
claims by 20 April 1988, and
there will be no further distribution
to creditors.

The company is able to pay all
known creditors in full.
Dated this 23rd day of March
1988
J.P. Barker - Liquidator

IN THE HIGH COURT
OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN MATTER OF THE
INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT
a meeting of the creditors of the
above named company will be
held at 10.30 am on 27 April 1988
at the offices of the liquidator,
Jameson City Auditors, 101
London Avenue, London, EC1A
4JL. The liquidator is also
giving notice under the provisions
of Rule 4.1(2) of the Insolvency
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Rules 1986 that on 27 April 1988,
creditors who have submitted
claims by 20 April 1988, and
there will be no further distribution
to creditors.

The company is able to pay all
known creditors in full.
Dated this 23rd day of March
1988
J.P. Barker - Liquidator

IN THE MATTER OF THE
INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
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the creditors of the above named
company, which is being wound
up, are required to send in their
claims and particulars of their
debts or claims, and the names
and addresses of their solicitors
if any, to the undersigned,
Liquidator, by the date of the
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on 27 April 1988 at 10.30 am.
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Recall of Hansen vital for Scots

By Roddy Forsyth

Andy Roxburgh, the national coach, has insisted on calling Scotland's last four matches "learning experiences". The first game ended in a 1-0 win in Sofia which halted Bulgaria's five-year unbeaten record at home and wrecked their chance of reaching the European Championship finals in West Germany. It was followed by a 1-1 draw against Luxembourg, Saudi Arabia and, on Tuesday, Malta.

Roxburgh insisted on the flight home from Malta that he has seen enough from the four erratic performances to finalise his thoughts on the squad most likely to serve Scotland well in the imminent World Cup qualifying campaign.

"Of course there will always be room for someone who shows good form to come into our plans but the time for experiment is over," he said. "I wanted to examine attitudes and ability and I know now who has got what we need."

He says the time for serious work by serious players comes in the next three games — with Spain in Madrid in April and against England and Colombia in the Rous Cup in May — which suggests that he knows his options are narrow.

Tough problems remain to be solved in key areas of the team.

Roxburgh must pray that Gillespie is available to command the heart of the defence. His ability to stride out of the back line and create an attacking opportunity with a single long and accurate pass has been badly missed since Sofia. But who will play beside him? Despite his declaration of retirement from international football one obvious name is Alan Hansen, Gillespie's partner at Liverpool.

Last summer it was said Hansen's knees were too vulnerable to injury for him to be considered for international football. Since then he has been a key player in his club's progress.

Hansen has not had a glittering career with Scotland and is out of favour with the Hampden crowd, who jeered him during his last appearance when the Scots were beaten 1-0 by the Republic of Ireland in the European Championship 13 months ago. Yet on that occasion Hansen was one of the few Scots players who tried to create a chance, only to be let down by other colleagues.

If Hansen has been soured by that experience and by his omission from the Scotland squad for the World Cup finals it would be entirely understandable. But his country needs him badly and someone should tell him so.

Elsewhere, Scotland are unbalanced on the left side of midfield. Jim Bett, of Aberdeen, is not likely to inspire the Hampden crowd to hero worship but he knows what the job requires.

More importantly, the Scots still have to guess at their best striking partnership and despite Greame Sharp's goal on Wednesday there is a strong case for a pairing of Derek White, whose whose direct running was seen to effect against Bulgaria, and McCoist, of Rangers.

With such questions still unresolved and the next fixture in the Bernabeu Stadium in Madrid, it might be as well for Scotland to have kept his place in the squad for a few matches yet.

Irish keep their record rolling with solid show

From Clive White
Dublin

Republic of Ireland 2
Romania 0

The sudden withdrawal of 10 Steaua Bucharest players was of little concern to the Republic of Ireland at Lansdowne Road yesterday when they served up their sixth consecutive victory under the two-year-old guardianship of Jack Charlton.

The result will look good in the record books and, more importantly, it will have done the Irish a power of good as they tune up for the European Championship finals in West Germany this summer.

With six first choice players unavailable, it was very much an experimental Irish team too, and Charlton tinkered further with it, making three substitutions during the course of the game.

Even if the extensive absentee list inevitably impaired the quality of the game, there was still much to be gleaned from the match by Charlton.

His decision to give Kelly, the 22-year-old forward, the chance to show what he could do against top flight opposition after scoring three goals on his debut against Israel was rewarded with another hugely encouraging performance by the 22-year-old which should complicate Charlton's forward selection quite nicely.

If there is a wealth of talent in the Republic's regular midfield, Brady's suspension and a questionable fitness has provided an opening for some body. Sheridan, whom Leeds United paid at nearly £1 million, went part of the way on his debut to proving his value on the international market.

No doubt Charlton will need to take a second look at him against Yugoslavia next month.

No less important in this area was the importance of Sheedy, who because of injury is still to find a niche in the Irish side five years after winning the first of a mere dozen caps. He has rarely looked more determined to do himself justice on the international stage.

Kelly enlivened a drab start to the first meeting between these two countries at senior level. His willingness to take on the wide defenders produced the Republic's most enterprising moments of the first half. But his crosses invariably met with a disappointing response from his colleagues.

It was, at least, more than the Romanians appeared capable of. Camataru, last season's Golden Boots winner, was an isolated figure in a lethargic looking team.

The Irish, clearly ahead on points, eventually converted their superiority to a tangible lead after half an hour. A

corner by Sheridan deceived Andone and Moraru, the goalkeeper, at the near post, a defender cleared off the goal line, and Moraru calmly and simply steered the ball back into the net for his fourth international goal.

It was encouraging to see the Republic maintain the initiative after half-time. Quinn, brought on for Stapleton, who captained the side, was deserving of a goal in the 56th minute with an aggressive, well-timed dive at a driven cross by Sheedy, but the ball swerved wide of the post. Morris, the right back, might have done better with a Grimes centre which Byrne had failed to meet, but the Celtic player sliced his attempt wide of an open goal.

The Romanians, unfortunately not to qualify for the European championship themselves, were still not without some quality despite the absence of those members of the European Cup semi-finalists. Boloni, looking younger than his 105 caps would indicate, showed us a delightful blend of subtlety and power, never more obviously demonstrating the latter than with a 35-yard free kick which Bonner did well to turn over the crossbar.

But the Irish remained persistent to the end and with seconds remaining a cross by Sheedy cleared Moraru for Kelly to head a simple and deserving goal at the far post.



Irish jig: McCarthy (left) makes a flying interception against Romania in Dublin yesterday

Graham gets his man

By Dennis Siggy

With today's transfer deadline looming, yesterday saw a number of Football League managers make eleven-hour signings, the most significant being the £450,000 deal which will take Brian Marwood of Sheffield Wednesday to Arsenal.

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, has shown an interest in the player for the past two years. Marwood, aged 28, was once described as "the new Steve Coppell", and completed the formalities of his signing after travelling to London for talks.

He is a goal-scoring forward who usually has a wide attacking role alongside more orthodox forwards and who has attracted the attention of most top clubs since he joined Wednesday from Hull City for £115,000 four years ago.

Hull yesterday sold another promising player, Gary Parker, to Nottingham Forest for £250,000. Parker, 22, the former England under-21 international, moved down from Luton to Hull in search of regular first team football two years ago and now admits it has paid rich dividends.

He said: "Moving from Luton to Hull was a good decision because it's given me

the springboard to join a big first division club. The move to Forest happened very quickly and I'm delighted about it."

Parker is Forest manager Brian Clough's second signing in a week; he paid £150,000 to Preston for teenager Nigel Jensen.

Trevor Francis, Rangers' former England striker, yesterday also agreed transfer terms which take him to Queens' Park Rangers on a free transfer.

Francis, 33, a former Birmingham, Nottingham Forest and Manchester City forward, and Britain's first £1 million footballer, travelled to London for talks with Rangers manager Jim Smith — the man who sold him from Birmingham — yesterday.

But Francis will not be in QPR's side at Portsmouth on Saturday. Smith said: "I am planning an unchanged side as the lads did brilliantly against Norwich last Saturday." Francis' move to Loftus Road will disappoint Oxford, who had been linked with him as a possible player-manager successor to Maurice Evans, who resigned as manager at the Manor Ground earlier this month.

Newport awaits wealthy Mr X

By a Special Correspondent

When, seven years ago, Newport County swept into the quarter-finals of the European Cup Winners' Cup, the Welsh town was embossed on the mental maps of football aficionados from Marseille to Milan. The romance proved short-lived. County have lurched from crisis to crisis until they are now contemplating at best a slide into Vauxhall Conference anonymity and at worst extinction.

Matters came to a head tonight with a board meeting when the directors could decide to fold the club. There were, however, rumours last night that a wealthy mystery American could be poised to rescue Newport and Brian Eastick, the former manager, said: "I've heard it's just possible that someone could be about to step in and save them."

Eastick was dismissed a fortnight ago when the club could no longer afford his £20,000 salary. The former Charlton coach arrived last October to discover that staving off relegation would be on a par with the miraculous. "I've had more problems in five months than a lot of

managers face in five years," he said. "For a start, eight players out of the squad of 17 were injured. None has been given medicals before signing and four or five would never have passed one. We also lacked a physiotherapist, so I had more injured players than fit ones and no one to treat them."

Injuries can be patched up but there was no remedy for the intrinsic lack of ability within the squad. "Of the original 17, by choice I would have retained four," Eastick said.

Survival will entail either the production of a deep-pocketed sugar-daddy or rebuilding from scratch in the hope of one day challenging for another League chance. Above all, County are desperate for stability. It is a quality which has been conspicuous by its absence.

"If I pick up a paper and read that the club has folded it will be a disgrace," Eastick said. "The directors have collectively got to accept responsibility for Newport's plight. I feel sorry for the supporters because their club has been mismanaged."

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Tory MPs yesterday called on the TCCB to consider imposing sanctions on Botham. Gerald Howarth, Conservative MP for Cannock and Burntwood, said: "This kind of loutish behaviour brings the game into disrepute. I think some kind of disciplinary action is deserved, possibly suspension for a number of games when the English cricket season gets under way."

Irvine Patrick, Tory MP for Sheffield, Hallam, said: "The board should certainly consider taking some action. After all, Botham sets the lifestyle for millions of youngsters."

Court case, page 46

Evert surrounded by youngsters

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Key Biscayne

Sometime this year Chris Evert, aged 33, is to marry for the second time. The word is that she will also retire from full-time tennis. If she needed a push in that direction, the pairings for the semi-finals of the Lipton championship provide it: she stands alone among three teenagers.

The line-up is Steffi Graf (aged 18) v Stephanie Rehe (18), and Mary Joe Fernandez (16) v Evert. For a tournament of this status, three of the quarter-finals were, in effect, exposing the gap between the celebrities and their leading rivals. Martina Navratilova and Pam Shriver did not enter and Gabriela Sabatini, Hana Mandlikova, Lori McNeil and Zina Garrison failed to justify their seedings. That left the draw embarrassingly deficient in genuine class.

Evert beat Helena Sukova 6-7, 7-5, 6-4, at the end of the day in a match that restored dignity to women's tennis. They were on court for two hours and 27 minutes and both played well. Evert had three set points in the tie-break, but to break service twice to win the second set, but never had a break point against her in the third.

Fernandez, a local schoolgirl, who ranks twentieth in the world, was noisily supported by a few chums, presumably truants, while

beating Elena Reinach. Rehe played a fine match, coming from behind in the third set to beat Barbara Potter, whose services and volleys lacked penetration.

Mats Wilander, the closest challenger to Ivan Lendl for world supremacy, beat Aaron Krickstein 6-1, 6-2, 6-0 in the first of the men's quarter-finals. This was a demonstration of a craftsman at work. Three years ago Krickstein, still only 20, ranked seventh.

Injuries have brought him down, but he is not the cannon fodder Wilander made him look. Other leading players receive more publicity and it is easy to forget Wilander's recent record in grand slam tournaments: runner-up to Lendl in the French and United States championships, and this year's champion of Australia.

I may not have told you that an Emerson is working in the Press Room. Not the famous Roy, but his daughter Heidi. Just outside is a stall selling German sausages under a sign that reads: "The best of the Worst." And the mobile toilets are all labelled "The Crowd Pleaser."

RESULTS: Women's Quarter-Finals: M. J. Fernandez (USA) 6-1, 6-2, 6-0; A. Krickstein (USA) 6-1, 6-2, 6-0; S. Graf (FRG) 6-1, 6-2, 6-0; C. Evert (USA) 6-7, 7-5, 6-4; M. Navratilova (CZE) 6-1, 6-2, 6-0; P. Shriver (USA) 6-1, 6-2, 6-0.

India pull out of tie

Delhi (Reuters) — India will not play its scheduled Davis Cup tennis tie against Israel in Tel Aviv "to protest against the Israeli atrocities on the Palestinians," Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, told parliament yesterday.

In London, a spokeswoman for the International Tennis Federation (ITF) said under Davis Cup rules India's refusal to play the tie would bring a suspension from the competition for 1989, and relegation to the Asian zone in 1990.

Jones quits RAF to run full-time

Steve Jones, the Welsh marathon runner, will become a full-time athlete from July 19, when he severs a 14-year link with the armed forces and leaves the RAF.

Corporal B8110633 Jones will break his ties with RAF St Asaph this summer in a determined bid to recapture the form which made him the marathon world record-holder in 1984. Jones has set his sights on winning this year's Boston marathon and an Olympic gold medal in Seoul.

"I've reached a period in my athletics career when I need some more motivation," he said. The easy option would have been to stay in the RAF, but I need to recapture a little

bit of my race hunger."

Jones has an early chance of testing his form when he defends his Fleet half-marathon title this weekend.

ROME (Reuters) — An official inquiry has found that Italian officials arranged the long jump result at last year's world athletics championships in Rome to ensure a bronze medal for Italy, *Gazzetta dello Sport*, a leading sports newspaper reported yesterday.

The Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) inquiry had concluded that a meeting took place before the September 5 competition to make sure Giovanni Evangelisti, the long jumper, won a medal.

Botham at crossroads again as TCCB call for report

Test and County Cricket Board members have asked for a full report from their Australian counterparts on the latest Ian Botham affair. Officials refused to be drawn on the all-rounder's future as an England player after his fine yesterday by an Australian court for assault and offensive behaviour during a flight from Melbourne to Perth.

Fixed earlier this month by the Australian Cricket Board after a disturbance on the field, and facing a further investigation tomorrow into a dressing-room incident in Tasmania, Botham has had a disastrous first season with Queensland.

"I'm not going to speculate as to what may or may not happen following receipt of the report," Alan Smith, the TCCB chief executive, said. "We may not receive it until after Easter and it would be wrong to comment until then."

Peter Lush, the England tour manager, who flew home from New Zealand with his team yesterday, said: "I have only read about it in the papers and one is naturally disappointed about any England player being fined for something like that — but it is a matter for our board."

The TCCB has promised to get together with players who step out of line in the forthcoming season. They warned earlier this month that selectors would pay "every bit as much notice to behaviour as 'form' when picking England teams to face West Indies this summer."

It is doubtful if Botham will be invited back next season by Queensland, for whom he has signed a three-year contract.

The Australian Cricket Board (ACB) is to take further action over him. Norm McMahon, a spokesman for the Queensland Cricket Association, confirmed that the

Englishman faces a charge under the code which prohibits players from engaging in public acts of misconduct.

Botham also faces a second charge, along with Dennis Lillee, after a complaint from the Tasmanian Cricket Council about their behaviour after a McDonald's Cup game between Queensland and Tasmania in Launceston, where a dressing-room was allegedly smashed.

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Court case, page 46

The stage seems set for an involved wrangle between Wigan and the New Zealand rugby league authorities over Tony Iro, the younger of the Kiwi brothers (Keith Macklin writes).

Iro has been named in the Wigan squad for the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final at Wembley on April 30 despite the fact that he has been instructed to return home to his

club Mount Albert before that date.

The New Zealand order to both Iro brothers and to other players in this country, including Shane Cooper of St Helens, is in accordance with existing agreements between the authorities in both this countries.

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END COLUMN

The hall full of madcap dreams

George Rae

The new Flat season opens at Doncaster today, that time of dreams when all owners see their egghead ducklings becoming the most beautiful swans.

And how they dreamed at the Ever Ready Derby lunch in London yesterday, no matter that all but one of the 174 original entries must inevitably fall by the wayside. In that boomed hall, hospitality and optimism unrestrained, it was a day to talk a good fight.

The mood was captured by Louis Freedman, who bred and owned last year's Derby winner Reference Point. "You have before you a man whose fantasies have been allowed to come true," he said, the elation of last year mingling with a near embarrassment that a lifetime's dream had been fulfilled.

Appropriately, it was his trainer, Henry Cecil, the champion of his profession in 1987, who was the first to consider his Epsom prospects for the coming year. "Of the more exposed horses, Saugulrico and Carmelite House would be more likely than Reprimand to stay the Derby distance," he observed.

The bookmakers agree and generally quote Saugulrico, unbeaten in five races last season and one of 10 Cecil entries, as the 16-1 favourite.

So far so predictable, but Cecil did, however, offer one particularly interesting insight. "If I had to nominate a Derby horse, I was most impressed by a Roberto colt trained by Mr Thomson Jones," he said. "Unfortunately I find it difficult to pronounce its name."

Impressive Al Mufti

Tom Jones, a fellow Newport market trainer, remained diplomatically silent, but further research indicated the animal in question to be the \$12 million colt Al Mufti, who had impressed several other respected judges on his only start, an emphatic three-length success at Ascot. Al Mufti is quoted at 25-1, and on the pedigree of his admirers alone there will be plenty of worse bets around.

But the big battalions will march, not for the first time, in the maroon and white colours of Sheikh Mohammed of Dubai, last season's leading owner. He has 22 entries, the same as last year, for the race he has yet to win. His challenge is augmented by the remaining members of the Maktoum family, who have entered a further 26 horses, five more than last year.

Robert Sangster, who has known Derby success twice before, most recently with Golden Fleece in 1982, has marshalled 12 possible four of them trained by Barry Hills.

But Hills, who enjoyed such a memorable season in 1987, his first at Manton, had a word of warning for those who would avail themselves of the 33-1 about Glacial Storm on paper at least, the most potent of his septet.

"He's a big horse," Hills said, "and I would think twice about running him on firm ground at Epsom. The Irish Derby may be a more likely objective."

The remaining eight Sangster hopefuls hail from Vincent O'Brien's Tipperary headquarters at Ballydoyle. The best known of them at this stage is the leading Irish two-year-old of last season, Caerwent, although O'Brien's newly-appointed stable jockey, John Reid, expressed a certain reservation about Caerwent's stamina.

Then to perhaps the most remarkable dream of all, that the Derby winner could be trained by a woman. Cigarette Head, the outstandingly successful French trainer, has four entries, while the Sussex-based Lady Herries is no greater than 33-1 to prevail with Sheriff's Star. How the ghosts of Epsom past would burn in their graves.

And on, helter-skelter, through the trainers, striving to balance objectivity with that burning desire to identify the right one to greet in the small, circular winner's enclosure on June 1.

But amid the unbridled enthusiasm it was left to the supreme pragmatist, Michael Stoute, successful at Epsom with Shergar and Shahrestani, to redress the balance. Having summed up Doyoun — "lots of potential but not certain to stay?" — and speculated on a dark horse, the decisive Varmouth winner Salaadina, he added: "But, you know, there's an awful lot of nonsense talked about the Derby in March."

Well, of course there is: but it's what dreams are made of.

LAST WEEK'S AVERAGE DAILY SALE 476,500

No 63,038

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APR 24 1988